

3– 5 Physical Science
Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program



Fun with Reflection and Refraction

Test out some objects to see if they reflect or refract light.

MATERIALS

Flashlight
Mirror
Empty glass
Aluminum foil
Clear plastic bottle
Pie tin

PROCEDURES

1. In science notebooks have students list the objects the different objects.
2. Turn the lights out; shine the flashlight through the different objects listed.
3. Have students record whether the object reflects the light or refracts it.

TEACHER INFORMATION

What happened? The mirror, aluminum foil, and pie tin reflect the light because they are shiny surfaces. The beam of light refracts when it passes through the empty glass and plastic bottle.

Nevada State Science Standards

P.5.C.1 – *Students know light can be described in terms of simple properties (e.g. color, brightness, reflection).*