

LIGHT and DARK (K-2)

The SCIENCE of SHADOWS:

Light travels in straight lines away from its source.



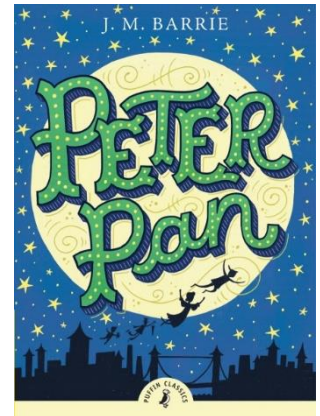
A **shadow** is created by the absence of light.



An **object** is always between the light source and its shadow.

READ:

[Peter Pan](#), the stage play adapted into a novel by J.M. Barrie, is filled with tales of the magical world Neverland – but the adventure started when the boy who never grew up lost his shadow! Don't have the book at home? Visit the Open Library for access to various [digital versions](#).



ACTIVITY: EXPLORING SHADOWS

Materials: paper, scissors, tape, pencil/stick, flashlight

1. Draw a simple shape (circle, triangle, heart) on the paper and cut it out. **TIP:** The shape should be about the size of a sticky note
2. Place shape near the top of a pencil, and attach it with tape.
3. Shine the flashlight on the paper shape – do you see the shadow?
4. How do you make the shadow bigger or smaller?
5. Can you change the shadow's shape?

When Is My Shadow the Longest?



EXPLORE: Go outside and find your shadow – is it long or short? What time is it? Go outside again an hour or two later – is your shadow the same size? What changed?

For step-by-step instructions, watch the video at:

[Shadow STEM Activity](#)

This at-home educational activity is from the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's literacy-based Stories & STEM program. Stories & STEM is made possible with support from Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc., which receives significant funding from the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.

Having fun? Send pictures or video links of you and your Stories & STEM projects to csharkey@literacypbc.org