



A Light Introduction

Cross-curricular activities

English

Investigate contrasting themes of light and dark in poetry and descriptive writing and write your own (literal use of light and dark or figurative use, e.g. emotions, good versus evil). Using openers, children could write stories about light or dark, or include given sentences. They could write reports about festivals of light, recount the trail or explanation texts about scientists who studied light.

Maths

Children could use data collected on their trail to create a variety of graphs. A tally chart of the different light sources or the results of brightness from a data logger from different light sources would be suitable data for a bar chart. A line graph would be appropriate if the data logger is left in one place over a period of time.

History

Investigate scientists who helped our understanding of light e.g. Ibn al-Haytham, an 11th century mathematician from Basra. World War 2 and the blackout would also link well – why was it important to hide light at night? How was a full blackout achieved? Leading onto investigations with materials (transparency, translucence & opaqueness).

Geography

Sustainability – use of solar power as an alternative fuel, energy saver lightbulbs.

R.E.

Look at Festivals of Light such as Christmas, Diwali, Hanukkah, Chinese New Year, Eid al-Fitr.

Art

Children could look at how light is used in art – light festivals, light art, black and white or monochrome art, e.g. Picasso. They could create silhouettes or pictures with LED lighting in canvases or study Chiaroscuro (literally meaning light-dark) art or photography.

Music

Listen to a piece of music and describe whether it makes you feel happy or sad. How does the music evoke those feelings? Play a contrasting piece of music and contrast responses.

