What is a shadow?

Light can only travel in a straight line. A shadow is formed when an object does not allow the light to pass through.

Have you ever noticed…..



When you are sitting near a tree on a sunny day and time passes, you find that you have to keep moving to stay in the sun. This is because the tree is blocking the tree is blocking the light from the sun and casting a shadow onto the grass. The position of the sun in the sky causes the shadow to be cast in different directions.

The reason that a shadow has been cast by the tree is that the light does not pass through it. Solid objects block light and a shadow will be cast on the opposite side of an object where the sun is not shining.

The size of a shadow can also change depending on the position of the object. The closer to the light source an object is the bigger the shadow will be. This is because the object blocks more of the light. The further away from the light source an object is, the smaller the shadow will be. This is because the object blocks less of the light.



When the light source moves, the shadow will change. When the light source is directly above the object. The shadow will be directly underneath.





When the light source is to one side of the object, the shadow will appear on the opposite side. The shadow will also be longer.