Line Up the Light!

LOOKING AT THE WORLD

We use our eyes to see, but we can only see when there is light. Light comes from a source like a lamp or the sun. We can block these sources by putting something in between them and our eyes. The fact that we can block light tells us something about how it travels. Let's investigate.

AIM

To investigate how light travels from a source to our eyes.

SCIENTIST'S NOTE

(hoose four positions to view the light source from. At least one of these should be a position where the light won't be seen e.g. behind a wall.

Method

- 1. Place the light source in the front of the room where everyone can see it.
- 2. Think about the four places from which you will view the light source. Predict whether you will be able to see the light from each each position and record your prediction on the worksheet.
- 3. Move to the first viewing position. If you can see the light, circle 'Yes' on your worksheet. If you can't see the light, circle 'No'.
- 4. Move to the next viewing position. Repeat the steps until all the viewing positions have been visited.

Equipment

A light source e.g. lamp, torch, candle

Line Up the Light! - Worksheet

Name _

Date _

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Hypothesis: (What do you think will happen during the experiment?)

Light travels in a straight line.

Write or draw the viewing positions. If you think you will be able to see the light from this position, circle 'Yes'. If you don't think you will be able to see the light from this position, circle 'No'.

Viewing position 1	Viewing position 2		
YES / NO	YES / NO		
Viewing position 3	Viewing position 4		
YES / NO	YES / NO		

Results: (What happened during the experiment?)

For each viewing position, indicate if you saw the light by circling YES or NO.

1.	YES	NO	2.	YES	NO
3.	YES	NO	4.	YES	NO

Line Up the Light! - Worksheet			
Name	Date		

Discussion: (What do your results tell you?)

As a class, discuss how to draw a picture for each viewing position that shows how the light moved/didn't move from the source to your eye. Your picture should include the light source, an arrow showing how and where the light was moving and a drawing of yourself showing where you were looking for the light. Draw a picture for each position.

Viewing position 1

Viewing position 2

Line Up the Light! - Worksheet	
Name Da	ite
Viewing position 3	
Viewing position 4	
Conclusion: (Was our hypothesis correct? How do we know?)	

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