

Shadows and Shade

Topic: Light/Science

Curriculum link: Physical Science

Text type: Report Reading level: 12 Word count: 315

Vocabulary: deserts, inside, light, outside, protect, puppets, shadow,

shape, shining, sunburn, sundials

Possible literacy focus:

- Understanding how shadows are made.
- Interpreting information in photographs and illustrations.
- Identifying words that contain the /sh/sound.

Follow-up activities

Discuss and reflect

After reading the book, ask the children:

What is a shadow?

Where can you find shadows?

Tell me about some shadows that you have seen. Would sundials be good in overcast weather? Why or why not?

Why do we need shade?

Why do animals and plants need shade?

Understanding text structure - Reports

Explore the structure of a report with the children. Reports provide factual information about a class or group of things. They have an opening statement and classification followed by facts about the topic. Diagrams and labels may also be used.

List on a chart the following information to show children how this report is structured using the following headings:

Opening statement
(What is a shadow?)
Facts (Where are shadows?
Shadows and the sun, etc.)

Show children the contents page and discuss how this helps us to locate the information we need. Point out the headings on each page and why we need them.

Opposites

Write the following words on the board: day, night.

Ask the children what they know about these words (they are opposites). Now ask them to find any other pairs of opposite words in the book (outside/inside, cool/hot). List these on the board as well. Now brainstorm some more pairs of opposite words to add to the list.

Ask children to divide a piece of paper into two and write and draw a picture for each opposite pair.

day	night
inside	outside
cool	hot

Shadow puppet performance

You will need:

light, screen, paper, skewers, black paper, cellophane, glue, sticky tape, scissors

- 1. Find a partner to work with.
- 2. Reread pages 16–19 of Shadows and Shade.
- 3. Think of a simple story to perform with three or four characters.
- 4. Draw the outline of a character on black paper.
- 5. Cut out the character, leaving some spaces in the black paper to fill with cellophane.
- 6. Attach the skewers to the puppet.
- 7. Practise your play and then perform it to the class.

Measuring shadows outside

You will need:

partner, chalk, paper, pencils, measuring tape

- 1. Find a partner.
- 2. Go outside and find a sunny place to work.
- 3. One person stands and casts a shadow.
- 4. The other person traces around their shadow with chalk.
- 5. Swap roles.
- 6. Now measure your shadow and write down the measurements.

© Eleanor Curtain Publishing

Name		
------	--	--

Animals and plants

How do these animals and plants use shadows? Write about each picture.