

Everything is planned for you!

Teacher planning page with objectives, fun facts, supply lists

Guiding questions (and answers) to help promote discussion

Teacher-Recommended Book List

Step-by-step directions for each activity.

Language Board with detailed pictures

Planning Page - Shadows
Earth & Space Unit - Lesson 1
Recommended Supplies:
• Light source (a projector, spotlight, or flashlight)
• Screen or blank wall
• Shape cut-outs on cardstock
• Small hand puppets
• Magnatiles (or other magnetic tiles)

Learning Objectives:
• The students will use simple investigation to explore shadows.

Guiding Questions - Shadows
Earth & Space Unit - Lesson 1
What is a shadow? Where can you see shadows?
Allow students to discuss and describe where they have seen shadows. Students may have likely seen their shadows outside. Ask students if they think they can see shadows. How? (stand in the shade/get out of the light)
How can shadows change shape?
The shape of a shadow can change based on the angle of the light source.

Scientific Investigation - Shadows
Earth & Space Unit - Lesson 1
Can you change the shape of a shadow?
Shadows can change shape based on the type of light source it uses. The angle of the light can affect the shape of the shadow. Students gain first-hand experience with light and shadows in this investigation.
Learning Objectives:
• Students will investigate how shadows change shape based on the type of light source it uses.

Matching - Shadows
Earth & Space Unit - Lesson 1
Can you match the shadow to its source?
Shadows are the dark area that appears when an object blocks the light. Use your observation skills to match the shadow to the object that created it.
Recommended Supplies:
• White paper
• Magnatiles, such as:
• Lamp
• Overhead projector
• Battery-powered lights
• Shredded paper or confetti
Procedure:
1. Set out paper, pencils, and a ruler.
2. Put the focus question on a piece of paper and post it apart and post it apart and post it apart.
3. Students choose a tile and trace the shadow on the piece of paper. End with a discussion about why do you notice shadows?
Alternative ways to use:
• Place small magnatiles on the paper to create a shadow.
• Create a sensory matching puzzle with shredded paper, and find matching pieces.

Book Recommendations - Shadows
Earth & Space Unit - Lesson 1
What Makes a Shadow? by Clyde Robert Bulla
A great introduction to shadows for young learners. Students will begin to notice shadows from all different types of light sources in the world around them.
Play with Light & Shadows by Jennifer Boothroyd
Filled with colorful, real-life photos of light and shadows.
I Love My Shadow by Hans Wilhelm
A great emergent reader featuring Noodle the dog. Simple sentences and playful illustrations will have students asking to read this book over and over again.
Grumpy Groundhog by Maureen Wright
This silly book follows the groundhog one morning who friends want him to come out of his hole and see his shadow. Groundhog is nice and corn does not want to make an



4 Full Color Resource Posters

Vibrant colors
to attract
students'
attention.



The sun makes shadows on the ground.

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Clear, concise sentences
to reinforce the concept.

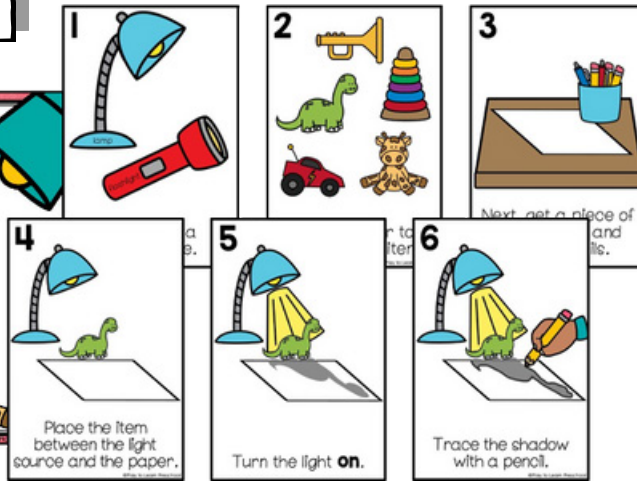



STEM & Literacy

Explore cause and effect

Vocabulary Tracing Cards

Focus Question
Can you change the shape of a shadow?



1
2
3
4
5
6

Place the item between the light source and the paper.
Turn the light **on**.
Trace the shadow with a pencil.



light



shadow

Vocabulary cards to hang around the science center



shadow
the dark space that is formed when something blocks light from reaching a surface

transparent
the ability for light to travel completely through something

light
a form of energy that helps us to see

flashlight
a source of light that is powered by batteries

dark
there is no light

sun
the source of light in the daytime sky



Student Mini-Books

Practice facts learned in class.

Black & White
2 copies/page

Shadows are awesome!

Shadows can not show colors.

Shadows can show shapes.

I can make a shadow on the wall.


Light can come from a flashlight.

I see my shadow outside.

Light can come from the sun.

A **shadow** is made when

All About **Shadows**



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1
2
3
4
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7
8

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Send home for additional practice



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Have fun playing and learning with your students!



Meet Jamie

Jamie is the founder and C.E.O. of Play to Learn Preschool. She has her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and a master's degree in reading education. She has taught in both public and private schools and works tirelessly to create meaningful and delightful preschool experiences for both her virtual and in-person preschool students.

Additional Resources:

