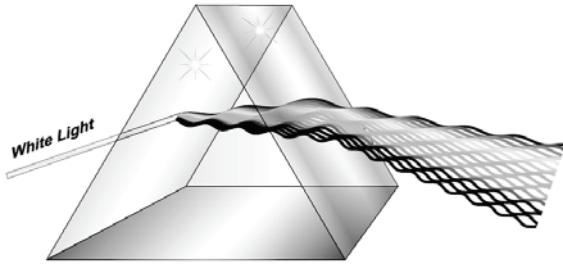


Sun Fun: Prisms

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How Prisms Work

Light changes speed as it moves from the air into the material of a prism. In this activity, we will use a glass of water to act as a prism. When the light hits the water in the glass, it changes speed and the different wavelengths of light become visible as a rainbow of color.

Build Your Own Prism

Fill a glass just over half full with water.

Place glass on the edge of a flat surface (like a coffee table or dining table). Don't let the glass fall!

Point your flashlight toward the glass and aim your light through the water towards sheets of white paper positioned on the floor. Move paper as needed, or adjust your light angle, and how close your flashlight is to your water glass until your rainbow comes into view.

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS!

What colors are you able to see?

Dim the lights in the room if you can, do you notice more colors?

