

A mirror is smooth and shiny. The glass is painted on one side, so it reflects light. A mirror makes light waves change direction.

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Handheld mirror
- Flashlight
- Dark room
- Another person

WHAT YOU DO:

1. Shine the flashlight around the room. See how the light goes out in a straight line from the flashlight?
2. Now place the mirror in front of the light beam. Where does the light's path go? Can you move the light by turning the mirror?
3. Place the flashlight on a table. Make sure it stays on. Take the mirror and place it in the flashlight's beam. Try it at different distances. Then tilt the mirror back and forth and see where you can make the light go in the room. When you hold the mirror at different angles, does it change where the light goes?
4. You can even use a light and a mirror to send signals. Holding the mirror in front of the light, turn it quickly to make a flash. Have another person stand across the room and ask you a question. Then use one flash of light for no, and two flashes for yes. Or make up your own secret code!

TRY THIS!

LIGHT AND MIRRORS

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