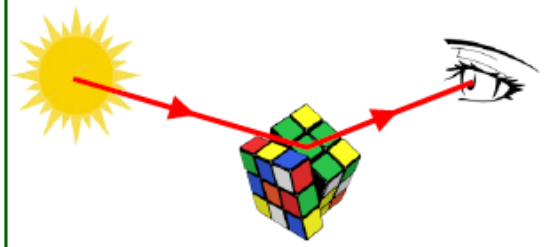
Year 3 Science – Light- Knowledge Organiser

Selected Vocabulary and Definitions	
opaque	An object you can't see through eg. wood
source	A thing from where something starts.
electricity	Energy, which is used to provide power.
reflection	Light bounces off a surface. Eg. an image that you can see in a mirror or in glass or water
translucent	Allows light to pass through but you cannot see clear images eg. This tissue paper
transparent	Allows light to pass through with clear imagery eg. Windows.

Curriculum Objectives
I can notice that light is reflected from surfaces.
I can recognise that we need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light.
I can recognise that light from the sun can be dangerous and we need to protect our eyes.
I can recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque object.
I can find patterns in the way that the size of shadows change.

We see things when light from a source enters our eyes.

Above: Light travels directly from the light source (candle flame) to the eye.



Here the light goes form the light source, bounces off the object and into your eyes, so that you see the object.

Key Knowledge	
We need light in order to see things. In the absence of light, it is dark.	
Light source	Something that makes its own light. Eg. fire
Reflection	Light bounces off shiny materials and reflects the light. Shiny objects reflect light best.
The Sun	The Sun is the star at the centre of the Solar System. It is a nearly perfect sphere of hot plasma and gives heat and light to our planet.
Shadows	If an opaque object blocks a light source, you get a shadow because light travels in straight lines.
Moon	The moon is not a light source. Light from the sun reflects from its surface.
Useful websites	
https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zf9c87h	
https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/articles/zp7f8mn	
https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zbssgk7	
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