

Shadows

Shadow Search

You and your child go outside on a shadow search and investigate shadows created by sunlight.

What's the BIG Idea?

Noticing how shadows change size and shape throughout the day

Investigating the shape, position and change in shadows created by sunlight

What's Needed

A sunny day and time to go outdoors at different times throughout the day.

How to Do It

1. On a sunny day, begin by observing and talking about your shadows outside. What does your child notice about shadows?
2. Go on a shadow search. As you walk, look for an object like a tree or building or telephone pole. Locate the object's shadow. What is this shadow's light source?
3. Revisit the object several times throughout the day. How has its shadow changed?
4. Repeat this investigation with other objects. What's the same about these shadows? What's different? What do the shadows look like on a cloudy day?

*I love my little sister, Mei-Mei. She goes everywhere that I go. If I go for a swim, she goes for a swim. If I dive for a fish, she dives for a fish. Mama says she's like my **shadow**.*

*One day soon when our wings have grown, we will fly away together by the light of a full moon and watch our **shadows** flying with us across the deep blue water below. What will they look like, I wonder?*

