

# THE COLOURS OF LIGHT

STUDENT BOOK Chapter 4, page 96

## Goal

Observe the different colours that make white light.

## Observation criteria

1. What is an electromagnetic wave?

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2. What is light?

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3. What colours make white light?

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## Materials

- ray box
- triangular prism (transparent)
- sheet of white paper
- pencil
- eraser
- coloured pencils (optional)

## Procedure

1. Place the ray box on a flat surface and turn it on.
2. Position the prism so a ray of light grazes one tip of the triangle—instead of passing perpendicular to one side of the triangle.
3. When colours appear, place the sheet of paper vertically about 30 cm to 50 cm from the prism.
4. Observe.
5. Note all colours obtained in order of appearance.
6. Put away materials.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Observations

Illustrate your observations in the box below. Give the box a title.

Title:

## Reflecting on your observations

1. Do your observations help you to better understand the composition of white light?

2. What replaces a prism in a rainbow?

3. How could you improve the protocol for this lab?

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