## Activity title

**Stylish Shadows**

### Time required

1 hour

### Activity summary

Making shadow puppets

### By the end of this activity, you will be able to:

- Know that shadows are created by blocking the path of light
- Use scissors to make a graphic product

### What equipment will you need?

#### Parts and components:
Card, masking tape, craft stick or straw
For the extension activity: tracing paper (for screen) and a large box.

#### Tools and resources:
Scissors and a torch

### How to do it

Light travels from a light source onto a surface. When some of the light is blocked, it creates a shadow. One use of shadows is to make shadow puppets.
Now try this

1. Choose the shape for your shadow puppet (large templates to cut-out or trace can be found at the end of this resource).

2. Cut it out using scissors.

3. Attach a craft stick or straw to one side using a piece of sticky tape.

4. Set up a torch so it shines onto a tracing paper screen. Put the shadow puppet not the beam of light, so it appears on the screen.
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For an example of a school making a shadow puppet, look at: http://www.prendergastcpschool.org.uk/making-shadow-puppets/

You could also

1. See how the size of the shadow changes when you move it closer to the light source or screen.
2. Design and make your own shadow puppet characters.

Further activities you could carry out

1. Use a large box to build a ‘theatre’ to hold the screen that the shadows appear on.
2. Create a short play using your shadow puppets.

For some examples of school shows using shadow puppets, you could look at:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A7mhu9-zU18
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lnpsE1MZ7AI
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What results were expected?

Examples of completed shadow puppets
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Templates to use

Ghost template:
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Spider template:
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Princess template:
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Butterfly template: