



# Follow the Beam!

Students experience light as something that simply appears and then disappears. But actually, light travels - so fast that it's difficult to experience. These two activities provide some experience with the fact that light travels - and it travels in straight lines that spread out over a distance. With the first activity, students will use a Light Blox and 3 index cards to observe how light travels in straight lines. With the second activity, students will use a Light Blox and a blank wall to observe that light spreads out as it travels over a distance. Have students complete each activity (one at a time). Hold a classroom conversation after each one that incorporates students' findings and covers the main discussion points.

## Big Idea

- Light travels in a straight line
- Light spreads out as it gets further from the source

## What you'll need

- 2 activity sheets
- 3 Index cards
- Set of Light Blox
- 3 binder clips
- 1 piece of white paper

**Main Discussion Points** - true of all light!

- Light travels in a straight line until it runs into something
- As light travels from the source (Light Blox) to the wall or paper, it "spreads" out and takes up more room.
- As the light source (Light Blox) is moved further from the wall, the light on the wall gets "bigger" and dimmer.
- As the light source (Light Blox) is moved closer to the wall, the light on the wall gets "smaller" and brighter.



# ACTIVITY SHEET 2

## ***REMOVE the line cap from the front of the Light Blox***

1. Turn on ONE Light Blox and shine the light at the wall. Move the Light Blox closer to the wall. What happens to the light on the wall as it gets closer to the wall?

2. Turn on ONE Light Blox and shine the light at the wall. Move the Light Blox further away from the wall. What happens to the light on the wall as it gets further away from the wall?