

Family Explore: LIGHT AND SHADOW

Exploring light and shadow with children

What shape
does your
shadow
make?



That shadow
is striped.
What else
has stripes?

Can you
make your
shadow
taller?



Helping Children Notice & Explore LIGHT and SHADOW

Whenever the sun is out, it's time to go shadow hunting! Shadows are changeable - growing, shrinking, and moving. Shadows allow children to explore and to think about cause and effect.

Shadows, like clouds, can look like a lot of different things. As you talk with your child about shadows, help your child make connections between what they see and other things that look like the shadows. When children have practice **Making Connections**, it will help them connect what they know to the new things they learn in school.

- *What do you think this shadow looks like?*
- *You noticed that the tire shadow looks like lips! What about the shadow from the slide. What do you think that looks like?*

Exploring light and shadow can help children think about why shadows happen and how they change. When children practice **Thinking Creatively and Reflectively**, it helps them make new discoveries and find creative solutions in school and beyond.

- *Look! My shadow is taller than yours? I wonder how your shadow could be the taller one?*
- *When you hold your hands like that, your shadow looks like a spider. What other shadow shapes could you make with your hands?*
- *Oh, no! What happened? Where did your shadow go?*

