

Reflections

Mirrors aren't for just looking in to fix our clothes or hair, we can do lots of experiments around mirrors. Let's have a go!

You will need:

- A big mirror and small mirror
- Paper
- Pen

Words

On your piece of paper write your name. Now face the mirror and hold up your paper. Can you still read the word on the paper? What do you think we need to change?

Maybe try and write the words backwards. Have a go at that, it can be quite tricky so take your time. Now have a look in the mirror. Can you read the word yet? Maybe we need to make one more change.

Write the word and the letters back to front. Does it work now when you hold it up in the mirror?

If you have a family member with you, why don't you write a new word on that paper, hold it up and let them read it. A little like a secret message.

Work through the alphabet and write each letter back to front.

Do you notice that some of the letters don't need to be written back to front? They look the same both ways. Why is that?

There is a special word for it. Do you know what it is?

Symmetry

Symmetrical is when something is the same on both sides.

Can you think of anything else around us that is symmetrical?

Complete this

Stick a piece of paper over a part of the mirror.

Make sure it isn't in front of your face, you need to be able to see!

Now, only looking in the mirror see if you can remember what the reflection behind that piece of paper would look like.

You might need to use your memory. Or make it up. Make up an imaginary reflection.

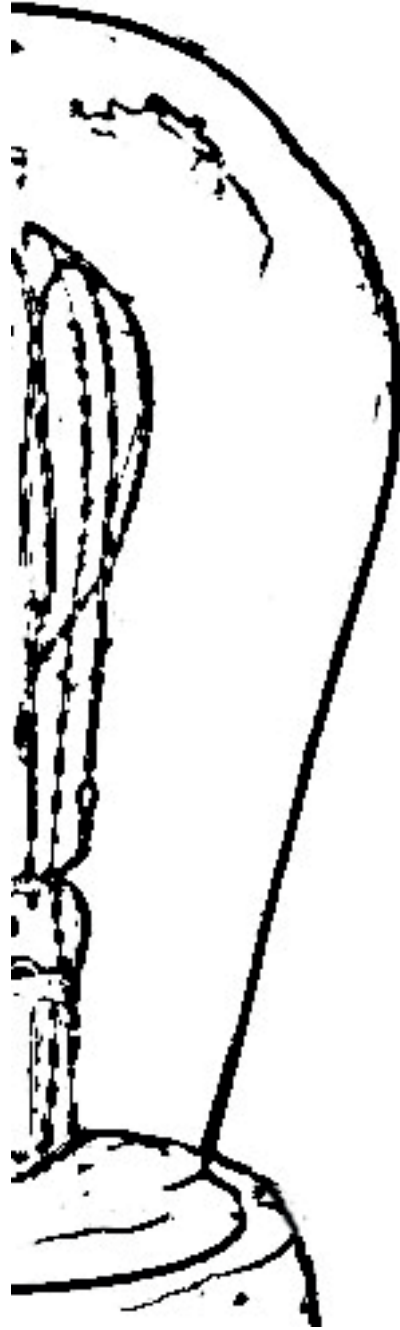
Mirror in a mirror

Do you have a smaller mirror?

If so, sit in front of a big mirror and hold your small mirror.

The reflection is bounced backwards and forwards many times.

Count to see how many times you can see yourself reflected.



Reflections

For this activity you will need a small mirror. Below is a half-drawn image. Place your mirror down the line in the centre. Make sure it is straight.

If you look in the mirror you might be able to see the complete picture. The mirror has reflected the original drawing and completes it.

You could try and complete the other half of the picture, then put the mirror down the line to reflect your side of the drawing.

Maybe make up your own examples and let someone else test it out.