



Observing Refraction of Light

Materials clear glass, water, metal spoon, the black arrow below

Refraction is when light bends. Light bends when it passes from a substance of one density into a substance of a different density. Does your body look different when you are in a swimming pool? When light enters water at an angle, it slows down and changes direction, making things look bent.

Cut out the arrow. Place it behind a glass of water. What happens to the arrow?

This happened because light was passing from the air to _____

Place a pencil in the glass of water. Look at the glass. What do you see?

How hold the arrow up to a metal spoon. The spoon is concave, which means it curves inward. A concave surface causes light waves to hit different parts of the spoon at different angles, bending them in different ways. What happens to the arrow when you look at the reflection in the spoon.?



How is reflection different from refraction? _____

