

STEP 1

Choose a sunny day when no clouds or rain is expected.

STEP 2

Find an open cement or asphalt area such as a driveway, parking lot, or sidewalk where the sun shines all day.

STEP 3

Have your child pick a place to stand and mark the spot using chalk or tape. This is where your child will stand each time he has his shadow traced.

STEP 4

Use sidewalk chalk to trace your child's shadow at least 3 times throughout the day.

If you'd like...

- Note the time next to each tracing.
- Have kids describe their shadows each time (long and skinny, short and fat, etc.).
- Ask them to predict where their shadow will be and what it will look like at the next tracing time.

STEP 5

Ask your child to think about her observations & create a hypothesis for the differences.

SHADOW
PLAY:
HUMAN
SUNDIAL

RECOMMENDED READING

Kid-friendly non-fiction.

On Earth by G. Brian Karas
Shadows and Reflections by Daniel Nunn
What Makes a Shadow? by Clyde Robert Bulla

Shadow-celebrating fiction.

The Black Rabbit by Philippa Leathers
Moonbear's Shadow by Frank Asch
Nothing Sticks like a Shadow by Ann Tompert
Papa Lucky's Shadow by Niki Daly
Shadow Story by Nancy Willard, illustrated by David Diaz