

Vocabulary



fiber optics the branch of science that looks at how light travels through optical fibers

Fiber optics is used to light up the inside of the body for surgery, to send telephone messages, and to look inside hard-to-reach places.

optical fiber a strand of transparent material that carries light

Optical fibers can be made from glass or plastic. Light carried by an optical fiber is reflected by the walls of the fiber. If the fiber bends, the light can be reflected along the bend. Even though the fiber can form a curved shape, the light carried by the fiber travels in straight lines inside the fiber.