Ways of Reflecting

Procedure

1. Collaborate Work with a group. The room should be dim. Place a mirror on the table. Hold a lighted flashlight at an angle and point it at the mirror. Record your observations. Safety: Do not shine the flashlight into anyone’s eyes. Wear goggles.

2. Predict As you hold the lit flashlight, another student will spray a mist of water through the rays of light. Predict what the path of the light will be. Then test your prediction. Make a diagram to show what you observe about the path of the light.

3. Observe Have another student hold a sheet of black construction paper so the light coming from the mirror shines on the paper. Make another diagram to show what you observe.
Conclusion

1. Did the light travel in a curved path or in a straight line after striking the mirror?

2. **Compare** How did the light’s path change when the black paper was held up in step 3?

3. **Ask Questions** With your group, brainstorm a list of questions about mirrors and the effect they have on light.

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**Ask Questions**

Think about different materials that behave like mirrors. Make a list of some examples and ask questions about them. Try to infer what traits they share that cause them to act like mirrors.