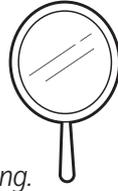


Mirrors

Name: _____

Mirror Facts

- A mirror is an object that reflects light.
- Mirrors are most commonly used for personal grooming.
- Mirrors are also used in things such as telescopes, lasers and cameras.
- An old superstition says that breaking a mirror brings 7 years of bad luck.
- The earliest manufactured mirrors were pieces of polished stone. Later polished bronze and copper was used.
- Metal-coated glass mirrors were first used about 2 000 years ago.
- Today, mirrors are manufactured by applying a reflective coating to the back surface of glass.



Do you know any more interesting facts about mirrors?

Reflections and Mirror Writing

When you look in a mirror, your image reverses. That means if you raise your right hand, your left hand will appear to go up in the mirror.

Mirror writing is formed by writing in the direction that is the reverse of the natural way. The result is the mirror image of normal writing appears normal when it is reflected in a mirror.

Practise mirror writing. Can your friends read it?

Is this hard to read?

(hold this writing up to a mirror if you can't read it)

Extension Research

Research and write about how mirrors are used for the following:

Disco balls, kaleidoscopes, mirror mazes or a hall of mirrors, commonly found in amusement parks.

Writing a Narrative

There are several examples of the use of mirrors in literature. In the European fairy tale, Snow White, the evil queen asks 'Mirror, mirror, on the wall ... who's the fairest of them all?'

Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking-Glass* and the *Harry Potter* series both include 'magical mirrors'.



Write a short narrative (story) that is about a 'magical mirror'.

Plan your story.

Where is the setting and who are the characters?

What happens? (plot)

How does the story end? (conclusion)

Symmetry

Draw a simple geometric pattern, then draw a line on one side of the pattern. This will become the line of symmetry.

Complete the pattern on the other side of the line of symmetry so that it is symmetrical, an exact mirror image of your original pattern.

