

SCIENCE WORLD

1455 Quebec Street Vancouver, BC Canada V6A 3Z7 scienceworld.ca

BACKGROUND SCIENCE:

A rainbow is formed when white light from the sun passes through raindrops. This refracts (bends) the white light and reflects it back at different angles to your eyes, revealing the different colours of the rainbow that are all contained in white light.

FUN FACT: the order from outside rainbow's arc to inside will always be Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Purple (Indigo + Violet) or ROYGBP.

MATERIALS:

- A small curved glass vessel (vase, cup, bowl, etc.)
- Flashlight
- Mirror that fits inside glass vessel
- Water

WHAT TO DO:

Place the mirror in the glass vessel, tilted slightly upwards. Fill the glass vessel with water. Shine the white light from the flashlight through the glass at the mirror and look for the rainbow!



WONDERINGS:

- What happens if there's no water in the glass?
- Does the amount of water in the glass change the rainbow you see?
- When would you see a rainbow outside? What provides light outside? What acts like the water?
- What colours do you see in the rainbow? Will you always see the same ones?