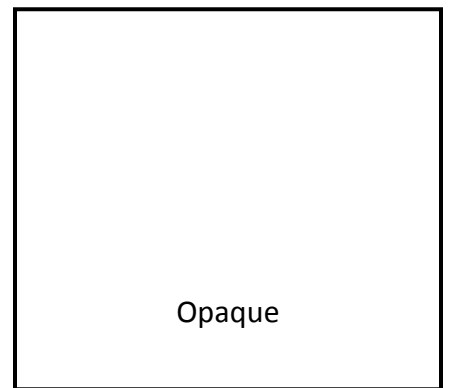
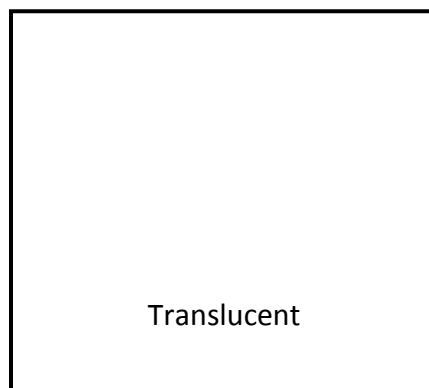
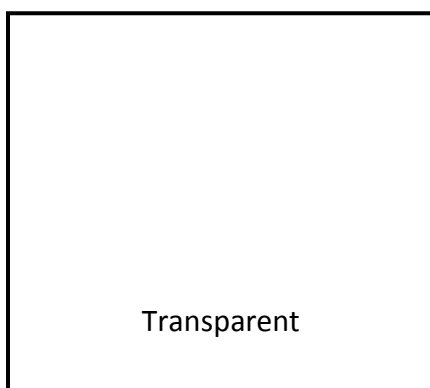


Objects are either; transparent, translucent, or opaque depending on the amount of light that is able to pass through them. Objects that are transparent look clear, like eye glasses or water. Light passes through transparent objects, so you can see through them. Some objects are translucent meaning they only let some light through. For example, most paper is translucent. Let's try it out. Hold your paper up towards a light source. You will see that the paper allows some light to pass through. Some objects are opaque. This means that no light is able to pass through them. For example, you are opaque. Like you did with the paper, hold your hand up to a light source. Does the light shine through your hand? Unless you're a ghost, the answer is no!

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Can you draw something that is transparent, translucent, and something that is opaque? Try not to use examples mentioned in the article, come up with new ideas.



You've learned that objects can be transparent, translucent, or opaque. These words let us know how much light is able to shine through an object. Did you know that the amount of light that shines through an object affects shadows too? An object that is transparent has a shadow that is barely visible. You may even have to squint to see the shadow. Objects that are translucent have shadows that are a little darker. An object that is opaque has a very dark shadow. You may be wondering, why does light affect shadows? Well, shadows are visible to us because they are darker than the light around them. When an object is translucent it allows a lot of light to pass through. This amount of light makes the shadow very light and similar in color to the original light source.

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Using what you have just read why do you think an opaque object has the darkest colored shadow?

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What kind of shadow do you think your shoe would create? Why?

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