Plan for Focused Assessment of Science

Topic: Light	Year 3 Age 7-8	Title: Can everything make a shadow?
Working Scientifically **Do:** Gather and record data to answer questions.		**Conceptual Knowledge** Recognise that shadows are formed when the light from a light source is blocked by an opaque subject.

Assessment Focus

- Can children make a series of careful observations?
- Can children record their observations in a systematic way that relates to the question?

Activity

Provide the children with a collection of materials to explore (some transparent, some translucent and some opaque).
Ask the children to investigate which materials form shadows when a torch is shone on them (colour, darkness, no shadow?) Ask them to record observations (draw, write, sort, photo). Challenge the children to characterise the differences they observe between the shadows – e.g. pale / dark,

Adapting the activity

Support: Prompt children to describe shadow & scribe their comments.
Extension: Can they order the materials and/or shadows in some way?

Key Questions

- Where will you write down the materials you are testing?
- How will you record what you have seen?
- What would be a good heading for this column?
- Does this material form a good shadow?
- What do you notice about this material/shadow?
- Where have you recorded what happened with this material?

Assessment Indicators

Not yet met: Can use their observations to decide whether or not a shadow has been formed by the material, *e.g. has sorted materials into two piles or recorded tick/cross.*

Meeting: Can make observations and decide how to record them to answer question, *e.g. independently records best to worst shadow.*

Exceeding: Recording communicates clearly how it answers the question, using appropriate vocabulary such as opaque and transparent.