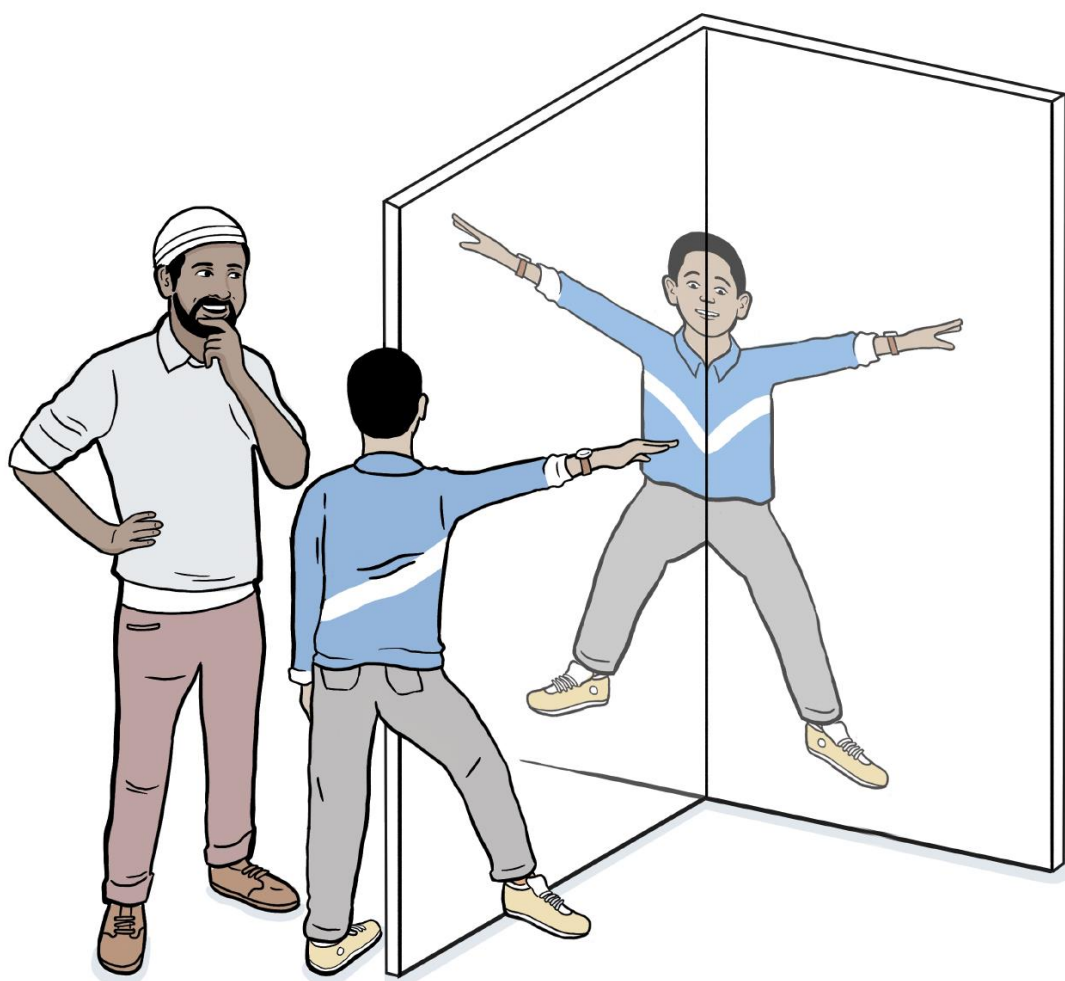


How can a mirror make you float?

ANTI-GRAVITY MIRROR



(Type)	Ages	Topic	Time
Science background	3-14	Light	<10 mins
Skills used			
Observation - Curiosity			

Overview for adults

Using this L-shaped mirror, you can see one half of your body reflected back at you. Explore reflection and different places to stand to create cool effects. All with the power of reflection.

What's the science?

Light reflects off the mirror and into your eyes. Because the mirror is L-shaped, it allows you to hide one half of your body when you stand nearest to one of the edges.

Reflection is where light bounces off an object. It travels out from a source of light like the Sun or a light bulb in a straight line before hitting an object. It reflects off the object and into our eyes so that we can see the object it just hit.

Science in your world

Some scientific studies have suggested that the more symmetrical your face, the more attractive other people find you.

What do you think?

Things to think and talk about ...

- Do you have any objects in your home that use reflection?
- Explore how the angle at which you stand affects the reflected image...

Things to investigate ...

- Can you make it look like you're floating in mid-air?
- Does your face look the same when only half of it is reflected? What's different?

Museum links

Modern cameras use mirrors to reflect the light from the lens into the viewfinder so that you can see it. Explore the history of the modern camera in our Kodak gallery on the lower ground floor.

Did you know...?

Mirrors can also be used to create special effects. In *Star Wars: A New Hope*, Luke's speeder appeared to be floating off the ground. A mirror stuck to the side of the speeder hid the wheels and reflected the ground instead.