

CURIOUS PEARL

SCIENCE GIRL

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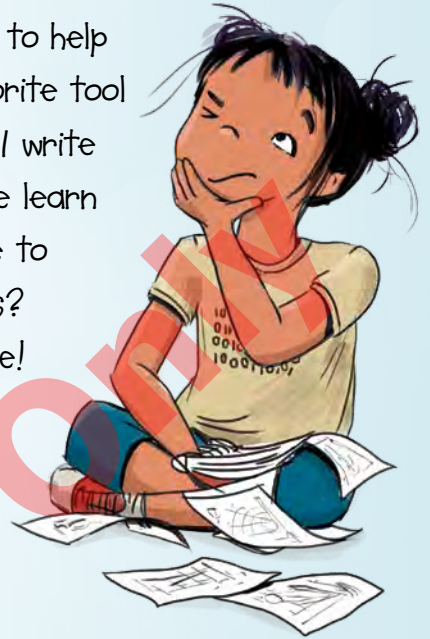


**CURIOUS PEARL
INVESTIGATES
LIGHT**

by Eric Braun • Illustrated by Stephanie Dehennin



Curious Pearl here! Do you like science?
I sure do! I have all sorts of fun tools to help
me observe and investigate, but my favorite tool
is my science notebook. That's where I write
down questions and facts that help me learn
more about science. Would you like to
join me on my science adventures?
You're in for a special surprise!



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**CURIOUS
PEARL**
SCIENCE GIRL

I'm so excited! Sabina and her grandma invited me to their cabin for the weekend. For two days we'll be swimming in the lake and playing in the woods! Our friend Sal got to come too. Sabina, Sal, and me — three best buds.

You know what's even cooler? Sabina brought her water rocket. Look at that thing go!



“Wait, where did the rocket go?” I asked.

“I think it landed by the water,” Sal said.

“Let’s find it,” Sabina said.

When we started searching, Sabina found something — but not the rocket. Her goggles.

“I’ve been looking everywhere for these,” she said. “I can’t believe I didn’t see them last night. They were right here.”



"Well," Sal said, "the Sun is out now."

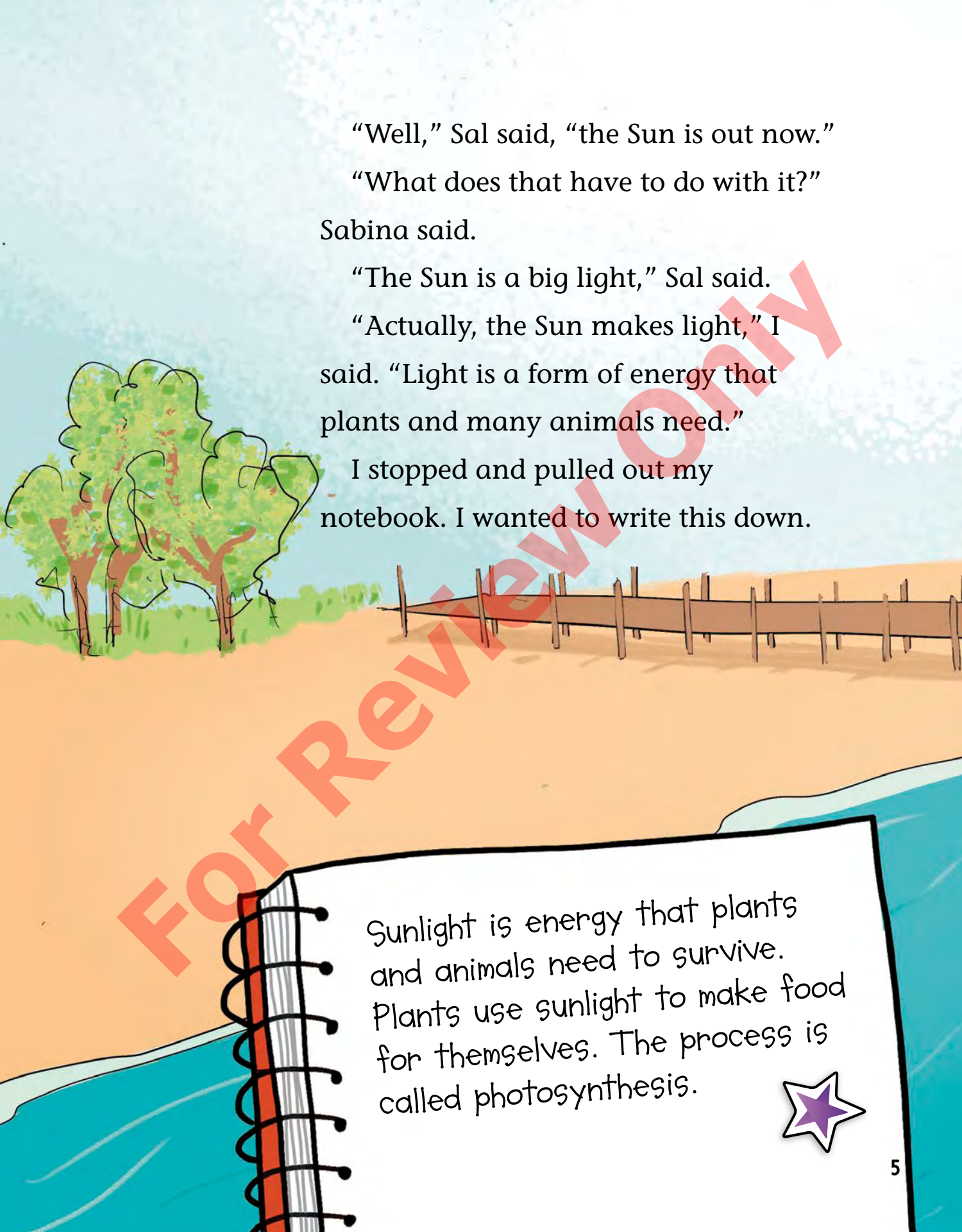
"What does that have to do with it?"

Sabina said.

"The Sun is a big light," Sal said.

"Actually, the Sun makes light," I said. "Light is a form of energy that plants and many animals need."

I stopped and pulled out my notebook. I wanted to write this down.



Sunlight is energy that plants and animals need to survive. Plants use sunlight to make food for themselves. The process is called photosynthesis.





"The Sun is the largest source of light," I said.
"But there are other sources, like fire and electric lamps."

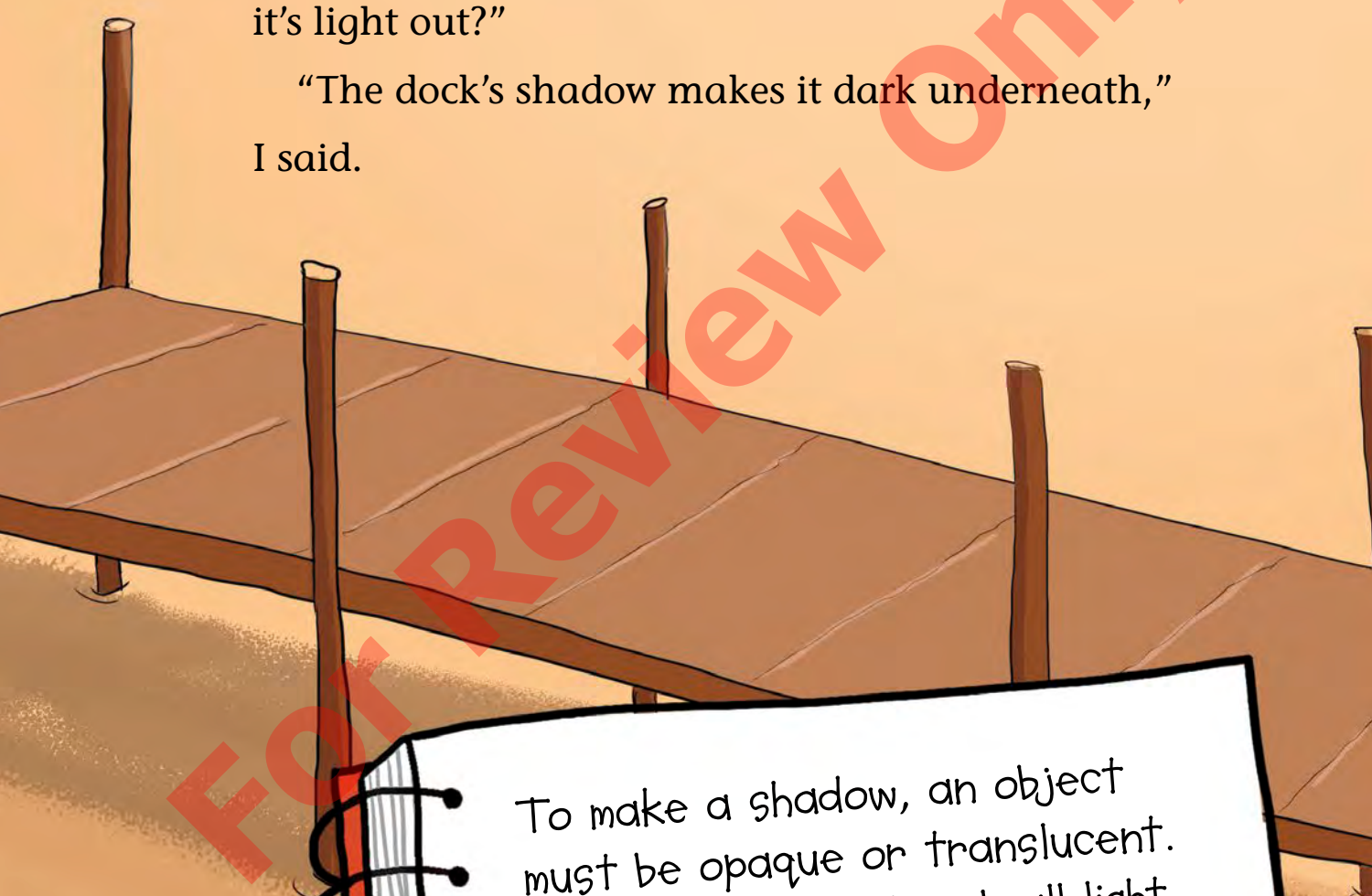
"Wow, are you a smarty-pants?" Sabina asked.

"I read about it in a book," I said. "I also read that light travels in a straight line. But I don't really understand that. Maybe I'm not a smarty-pants."

“Look!” Sabina said. “My shovel and bucket. I lost them ages ago. But I never saw them in the dark under the dock.”

“Wait,” Sal said. “Dark under the dock? When it’s light out?”

“The dock’s shadow makes it dark underneath,” I said.

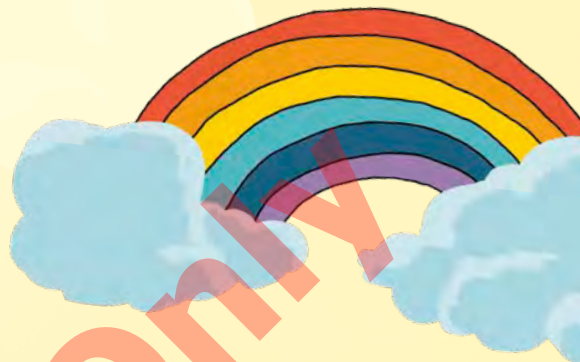


To make a shadow, an object must be opaque or translucent. Opaque objects absorb all light. Translucent objects absorb some light but also allow some light to pass through.





Make a Rainbow!



Do you want to see all the colors in light at once? You probably have seen this before. That's what a rainbow is. When light shines through water, the water bends the light and breaks it up into colors.

Here's what you need:

- small mirror that will fit inside the glass
- clear glass filled halfway with water
- sunshine
- sheet of white paper

Steps:

1. Put the mirror into the glass of water.
2. Turn the glass so the mirror faces the Sun, and the Sun shines on it.
3. Hold the sheet of paper in front of the glass so the light reflecting off the mirror hits it.

Check out the rainbow! You can move the paper around to change the shape or position of the rainbow.