

Seeing Light

Learning Objective:

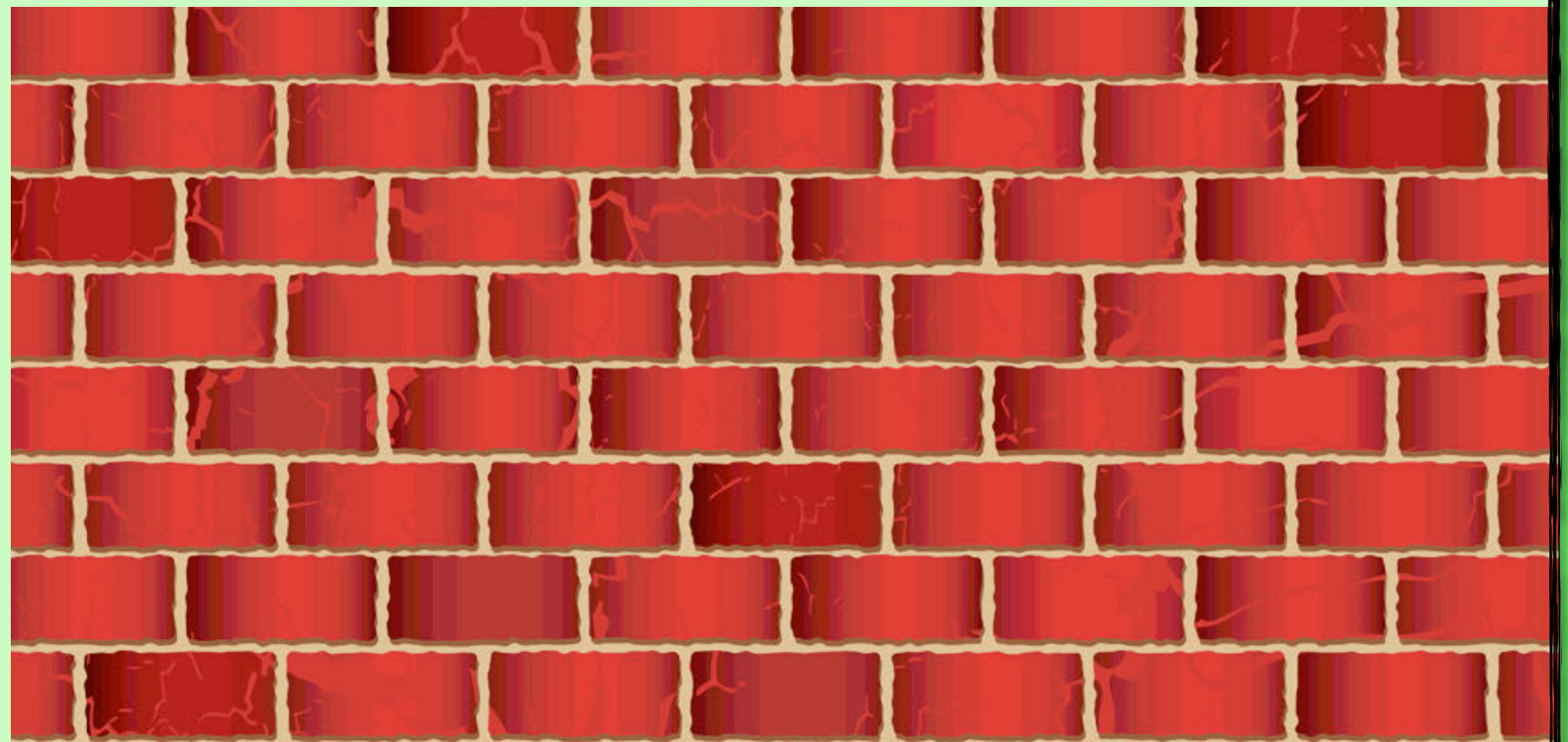
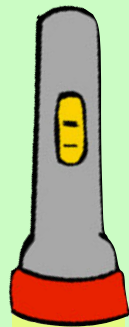
To explore how light can be reflected and change direction.



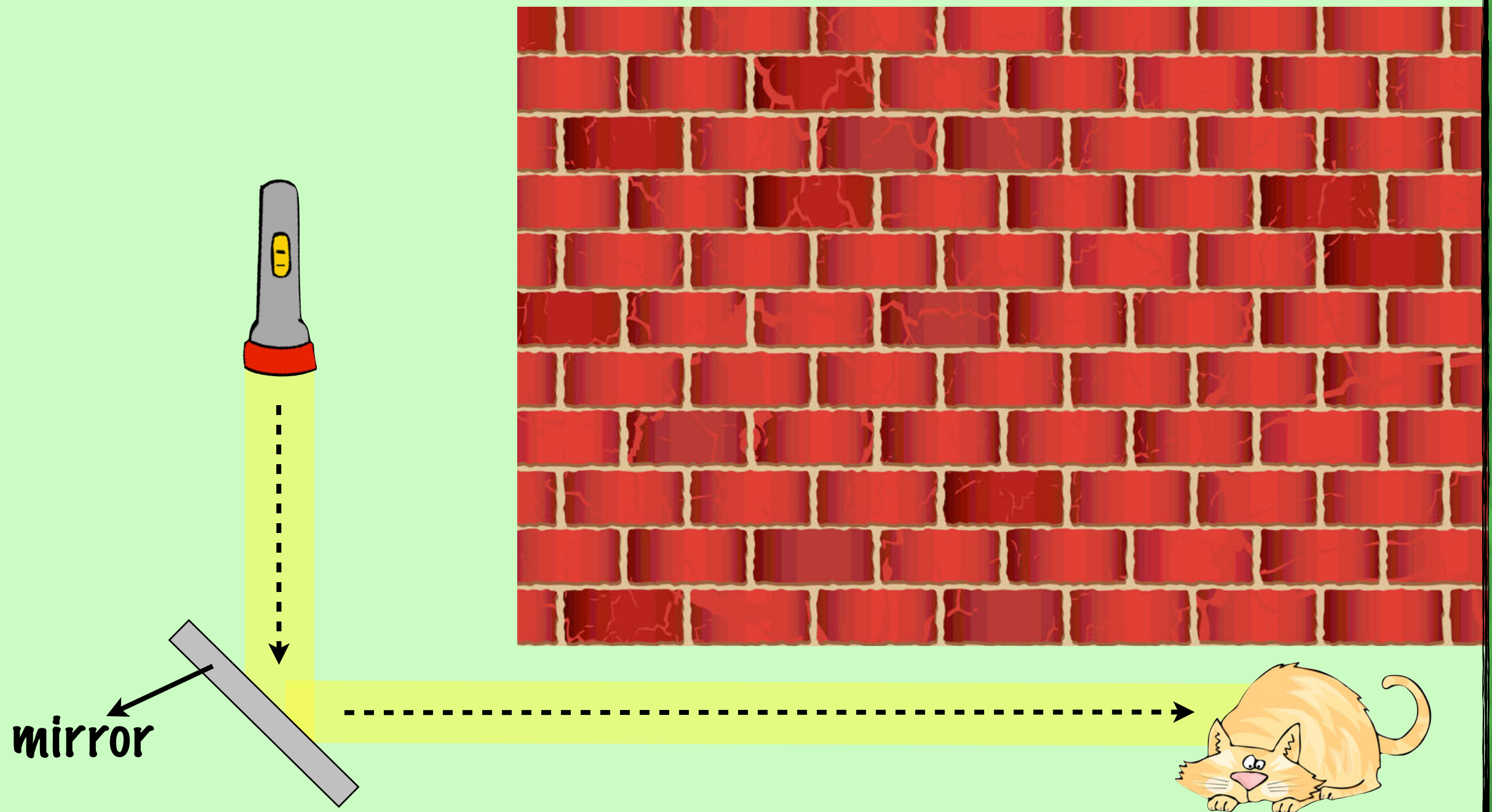
Light can only travel in a straight line. It cannot bend or go around corners.



How could I get this torch beam to shine on the cat around the corner?



Mirrors can be used to reflect light. When the mirror hits the light, it bounces off and changes direction. The angle you are holding the mirror at will change which angle the light will bounce off at.



Can you explain how each of these objects use mirrors to see things that aren't directly in front of them? Why are these objects useful?



periscope



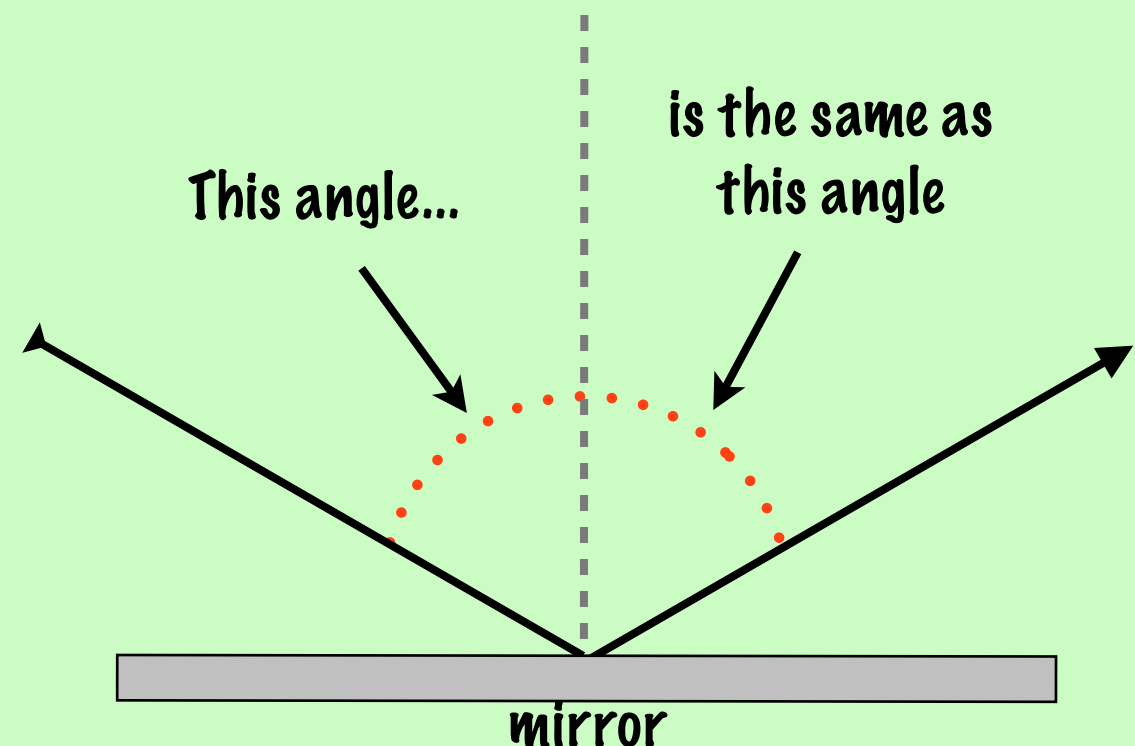
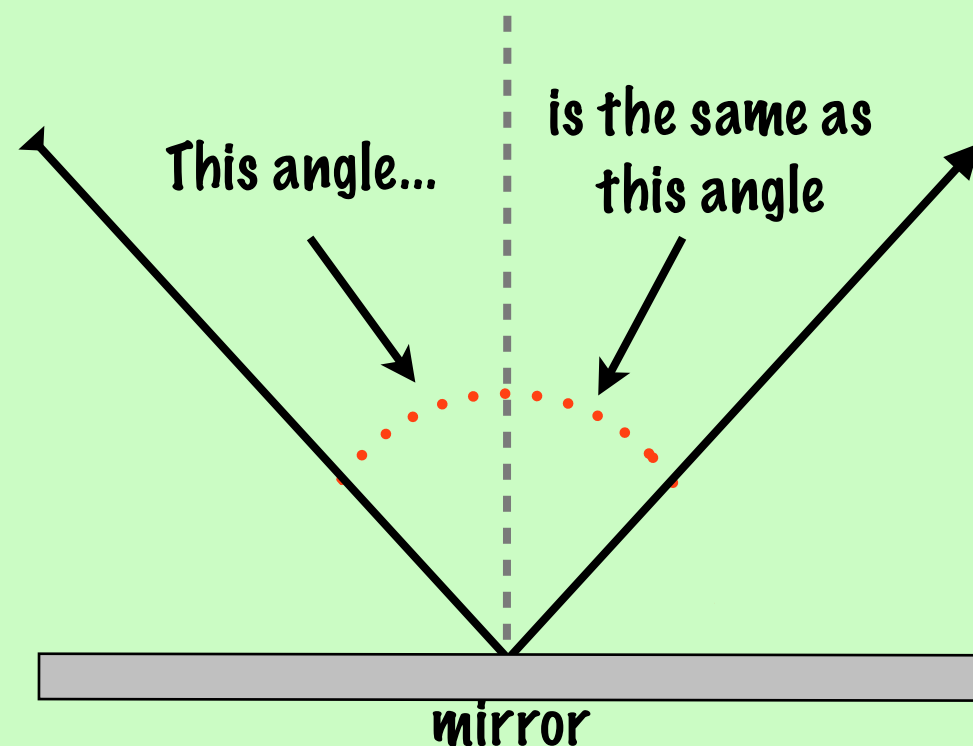
rear-view mirror



Mirrors have all sorts of uses as they enable people to see in places that they wouldn't normally be able to see. Dentists, for example, use mirrors to see into your mouth at angles they wouldn't usually be able to look at.



Mirrors behave in predictable ways. The angle that the light lands on the mirror will affect which angle the light changes its direction to. This is known as the angle of reflection.



Can you draw the light reflecting off the mirror in these examples?

