Additional Resources

Books:

Branley, Franklyn, illustrated by Stacey Schuett. 1998. *Daylight, Nightlight: Where light comes from*. New York, NY: HarperCollins.

Gal, Susan. 2009. *Night Lights.* New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf.

Robertson, William. 2003. *Light: Stop faking it! Finally understanding science so you can teach it.* Arlington, VA: National Science Teachers Association.

Online resources:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Ask an Engineer.
http://engineering.mit.edu/live/news/1914-why-doesnt-a-plain-white-piece-of-paper-reflect
This website has much on light reflecting from white paper and is a good source of background information.

The Physics Classroom pages on Reflection and Ray model of light
www.physicsclassroom.com/class/refln/u13l1a.cfm
This website is a good source for background information.

Activity:

This is an activity for exploring the world and determining that we sense light only using our eyes, not our ears, nose, mouth, or skin. Have students use all their senses with a beam of light to confirm that light can be sensed only with the sense of sight.

Sense	Activity
Sight	Have children identify all the sources of light they see during a school day (light fixtures, sun, flashlights, moon and other reflected light sources). **Caution:** Remind children never to look directly at the sun because it will damage their eyes even though they may not feel hurt.
Sound	Use a flashlight with a quiet switch. Have children close their eyes and turn their backs to you. Have them tell you when the flashlight is on by listening for the "sound of light".
Smell	Use a flashlight with a quiet switch. Have children close their eyes and turn their backs to you. Have them tell you when the flashlight is on by sniffing for the "smell of light."
Taste	Have children capture a mouthful of light from the sun or a flashlight and report on the taste, if any.
Touch	Use a flashlight with a quiet switch. Have children close their eyes and extend a hand in front of them. Have them tell you when the flashlight is shining on their hand by feeling the light. Many light sources make heat that we can feel but in this activity we use a flashlight because we are focusing on being able to sense light, not changes in temperature, with our skin.