



**Prize Winner**

# Science Writing Year 5-6

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# Lighting the Way Home

By Chloe Piper Lambden

(click on the .m4a files to listen to the story being read)



Ray called Star. Come quick.m4a

“Ray!” called Star. “Come quick!”

Star is Ray’s mum.

Ray is short for her age, yet sweet with a personality as bright as the sun. She is bright and bubbly like big, white, fluffy, cotton ball clouds.

“Coming!” replied Ray.

Ray raced down the stairs to see what her mum wanted.



Wow gasped Ray.m4a

“Wow” gasped Ray. The beams of light coming from the sun looked as if they were circling around it.

“It looks like a portal” thought Ray. Simultaneously it was as though she was absorbed into the sun and pulled into the centre of it.



When Ray felt brave.m4a

When Ray felt brave enough to open her eyes she felt like she was in the bottom of a deep ravine except it was fully illuminated.

“What’s this?” Ray wondered as she tore a sticky note off the wall. It read:

*Dear newcomer, Your only way to escape is to activate the light portal. Hint: use your light knowledge.*

“What does this mean?” questioned Ray, as she recalled her favourite Albus Dumbledore quote ‘Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if only one remembers to turn on the light.’



As Ray Turned.m4a

As Ray turned, she no longer saw the deep ravine, but a room of mirrors reflecting her image.

“Mirrors?” whispered Ray. “And a torch? I must have to use reflection.” Ray tried many different ways of using the torch and mirrors before she had a ‘lightbulb moment’.

“Of course!” Ray exclaimed. “I could get the light to bounce off every mirror so finally it will bounce off to open some sort of doorway.” At first, when Ray tried, nothing happened! Then, like magic, as the light reflected off each mirror onto the next, a door appeared, with a table of objects on the other side.



A seed, a cup.m4a

“A seed, a cup with dirt and water” Ray observed. Ray put the seed in the soil and watered it lightly. Suddenly, as though time lapsed a few weeks, a plant shot out of the cup. It was then that Ray realised the only light coming into this new room was a slither of the sun through a tiny window.

“The sun must’ve given the plant light and the plant absorbed it. Light travels at 300 000km per second so it appears to be magic. That’s faster than any man-made object”

However, that still didn’t help Ray with how she would return to her mum. After a second or so, a ball of light floated through the plant, reflected off the wall, and created an archway. Magic mixed with science was in play.



Ray could hear.m4a

Ray could hear gushing of water when she passed through the archway. She looked around locating the source of the water. A waterfall!

Beside Ray’s feet another note read:

*Dear newcomer, You have reached you last task. The portal home is in the centre of the waterfall. Good luck!*

“That’s it!” exclaimed Ray. “There hasn’t been a task on refraction and a rainbow is caused by refraction where light passes through droplets of water making the light change direction!”

As Ray looked up again, she saw a rainbow circle that looked just like the one that the sun made but this time with all different colours.

Ray decided this was the way home and jumped into the rainbow portal.



When Ray landed.m4a

When Ray landed, she was in the same spot she had left. As she made her way back to her mum, who she thought must be extremely worried, she found a final note on the door.

*Great job, We hope to set up another challenge in future, what do you say? Hope to see you soon.*

Ray grabbed a pen and wrote:

*Hello, My name is Ray. Although this was fun there might be a different topic next time. I am most confident with my knowledge of light, but am excited about learning many other topics in future. Yours sincerely, Ray.*

Once finished writing the note, Ray stuck it back just how she found it.



Ray Star called Dinner.m4a

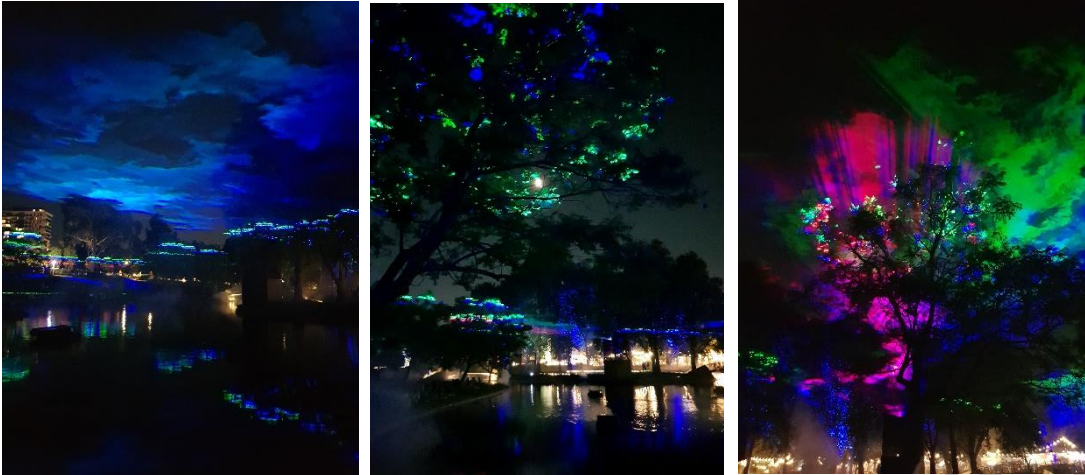
“Ray” Star called “Dinner!”

Ray replied “Coming!” with the pride of figuring out challenges and overcoming them, wondering what surprises the future held. Her mum didn’t even notice her short disappearance. Maybe she had travelled at the speed of light too.

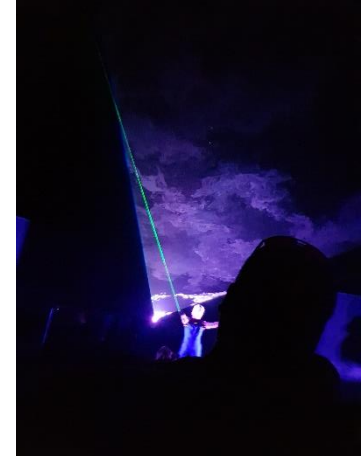
## Resources

### Primary

- Bolearis, Adelaide Fringe Festival, visited 21 March 2021



- Zoom, Patch Theatre Company, attended 22 May 2021



- Wonder, 2017, Refraction of Light Experiment, Lionsgate Movies, viewed 3 July 2021, tested 12 July 2021



- Morialta Falls, Woodforde, South Australia, visited 13 July 2021



- Playing with my brother – shadow puppets with a torch and 'catching the light' reflected on a wall from a PlayStation CD June/July 2021

Acknowledgment:

I would like to acknowledge my mum for her support with helping me find resources and reviewing my writing.

## Secondary

- Amson-Bradshaw G., 2017, *Science in a Flash*, Frank Watts, Great Britain
- Batchelor P., 2009, *Energy Sound and Light*, Inside Science, USA
- Benefer C., 1977, *Looking at Light*, Discovery World, Great Britain
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- *Refraction of Light*,  
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viewed 12 June 2021

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