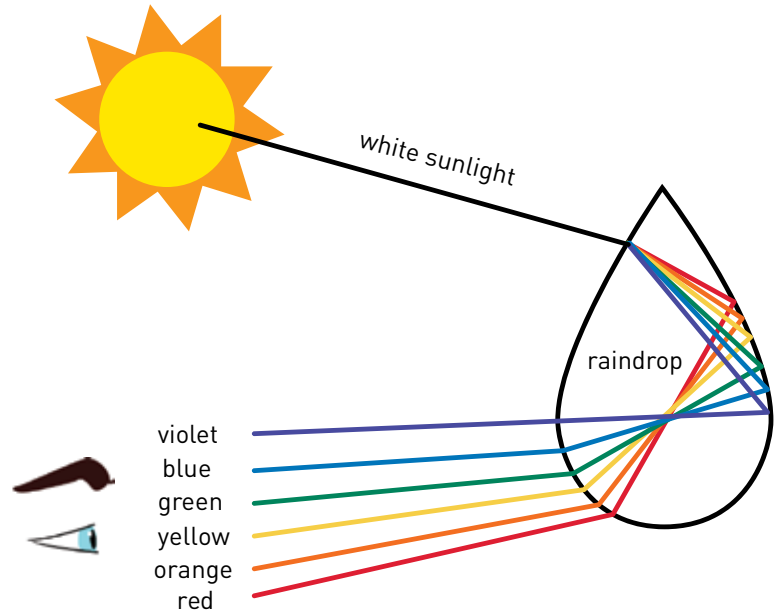


How is a rainbow formed?

The recipe for a perfect rainbow calls for only two items: sunlight and water.

It's important to remember that the white light from the sun is actually made up of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet rays of light. When this white sunlight hits raindrops at a certain angle, the colors can separate. Each ray of colored light we see in a rainbow is the result of sunlight hitting raindrops at just the right angle and distance.



QUESTION & ANSWER:

What are the two essential things that make up a rainbow?

Sunlight and water.

What happens when white sunlight hits raindrops at a certain angle?

The colors separate.

ACTIVITY:

On a sunny day, make your own rainbow with just a glass of water and a piece of white paper. Let the sunlight hit the glass of water. Hold your white paper underneath the glass. Experiment with different angles and distances to make a rainbow appear on your paper.