READING MATERIAL

Read About Communication

DEFINITION OF COMMUNICATION

Communicate means to send or receive a message. People can communicate over distances using light and sound in a variety of ways.

To better understand how communication over distances work...

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN!

Light is used to communicate over distances.

Light allows us to see in the dark and it can travel very long distances. An ambulance has flashing lights which communicate to people that there is an emergency and they should get out of the way.





Sound is used to communicate over distances.

Sound is made by vibrations and we hear sound with our ears. Sound can also travel long distances. A police siren is loud to tell people that there is an emergency.



Traffic lights communicate using light.

A green light tells the drivers to go. A red light tells the driver to stop. A yellow light tells the driver to slow down. Traffic lights keep drivers safe on the road.





Morse code is a way to communicate over distances.

Morse code can communicate letters and numbers using light or sound. Sailors on ships can flash lights using Morse code to send messages from one ship to another.

Animals use light and sound to communicate.

Birds sing to let other birds know they are there. A firefly lights up to help other fireflies find them. A bear can growl to scare away other bears.



COMMUNICATION VOCABULARY

Sound	Noise caused by an object vibrating.
Light	Allows us to see objects in the dark.
Message	Information that is sent or given to someone.
Distance	How far away something is.
Morse Code	A special code used to communicate letters and numbers using light or sound.

QUESTIONS ABOUT COMMUNICATION

How do fire trucks and police cars communicate with people?

They use sirens and flashing lights to communicate with light and sound. Their message is that there is an emergency and you should get out of the way!

What are some ways people use light to communicate over a distance?

Possible answers: Morse code, flashing lights of a car, a light house warning boats.

How did Morse code work in the video?

Each letter of the alphabet is represented by a code of short and long flashes of light.

What are some examples of how sound is used to communicate?

Sirens can communicate an emergency; spooky music can communicate that something scary is about to happen in a movie.

How do animals use sound to communicate?

Animals might warn other animals about danger nearby. Crickets might chirp to let other crickets know where they are. Birds often sing to tell other birds where they are.

How does a string telephone work?

Sound waves from your voice vibrate down the string and into the cup of your partner.