

THE HIDDEN SNOWMAN

Can you find the hidden snowman on the muskrat page in the book?

The muskrat says, "No stranger came this way. No one passed by my pond." However, the shadow behind the muskrat is in the shape of the snowman's head! Obviously the muskrat was not paying attention! How did that snowman's shadow form? What makes a shadow?

MATERIALS

- A copy of the snowman's head
- Scissors • Flashlight
- Craft Stick • Tape

WHAT TO DO

1. Cut out the snowman's head below.
2. Tape your snowman's head to the end of a craft stick for a handle to hold your shape.
3. Shine the flashlight toward a white surface and hold the snowman in front of the flashlight.
What do you see?
4. Move the flashlight closer and to the snowman. What happens?
5. Move it farther from the snowman. What happens?

WHY DO YOU SEE A SHADOW?

The shape of the snowman blocks the light rays, so the area behind the snowman is black. Shadows form because **light travels in straight lines**. What would happen if light could bend? It would bend around your snowman shape to the other side and would not be blocked by the snowman. If all of the light could bend around the snowman to the other side, the light would reach the white surface. Then you would not have a snowman shadow.

