

OPTICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

www.OPTICSforKIDS.org

Can you guess what a CD player and a rainbow have in common? Optics! The science of light.

Optics is a fascinating science, that has to do with how light behaves and can be utilized in technology. So, if you have ever wondered how your CD or DVD player works, why rainbows are so colorful, or why stars appear to twinkle at night, we invite you to explore the science of optics.

Visit the web site listed above to learn more about optics and photonics. The site lets you perform optics experiments right at your computer and teaches you to do activities such as:

- Building a telescope
- Building a microscope
- Building a periscope
- Creating your own laser show
- Making an edible hologram
- Mixing colors
- Generating Moiré patterns
- Having fun with CDs
- Using lasers and measuring the results

Plus, if you have an optics question, and cannot find the answer on OPTICSforKIDS.org, you can "Ask an Expert" by visiting: www.OPTICSforKIDS.org/expert/expert.cfm.

OPTICSforKIDS.org was developed to provide students, teachers, and parents with a comprehensive resource about optical science, its applications, career opportunities, and more. Content for the site was contributed by OSA members and science educators as well as: NASA, AIMS Education Foundation, *Optics & Photonics News*, and many others.

The mission of the Optical Society of America is to promote the generation, application, and archiving of knowledge in optics and photonics and to disseminate this knowledge worldwide. The purposes of the organization are scientific, technical, and educational. To learn more about OSA visit: www.OSA.org.

IN THE BACKGROUND: Fiber optics *Optical Society of America*

