

# Tracking the Sun

## Activity Mission 1

### Objectives

Observe the movement of the sun over a period of hours and weeks

### Initial Questions

Is the Sun in the same place in the sky every day of the year?

How could you test your hypothesis?

### Materials

- Wooden dowel
- cardboard square
- colored pens
- glue
- window

### Procedure

1. Glue the wooden stick to the cardboard square so that it stands upright. To assure that the full shadow fits on the cardboard, you may want to glue the stick closer to one of the edges.
2. Once the glue is dried and the stick can stand by itself, place the cardboard square on a flat surface where it will be exposed to the Sun, such as a table in front of a window. It is very important that the board be in the same location each time you mark it.
3. Take note of the time of day. Mark the point on the board where the tip of the shadow is located and write the date.
4. Repeat this daily or weekly at the exact same time each day using different colored pens to mark your observations on different days.

### Questions

What statement can you make based on your results about the movement of the Sun?

How could knowledge about the movement of the Sun be useful to people?