

Sun Investigation

The Ancient Egyptians measured time and were the first people to divide both the night and day into 12 equal parts, which gave us the 24-hour day. They had several ways of using the shadows cast by the Sun to tell the time and you can investigate how they did this.

Find a sunny point in your garden and plant a stick/pole there. Surround it with paper on the ground. Note the position of the Sun and draw round the shadow of the stick/pole every hour on the hour. How do the shadows change? Is it the same the next day? How does this help to tell the time?