40 See a sunset

The Sun often turns a lovely orange or red when it sets at dusk. Find out why this happens by making your own sunset. You can do this using a flashlight and a glass of milky water.







Milk

Glass beaker of water

Flashlight

Spoon

1 Shine the flashlight through the beaker of water. It looks white, like the Sun when it is high up in the sky.

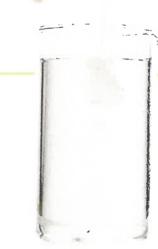


Pour a little milk into the water in the beaker.



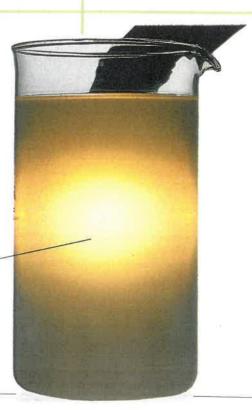
3 Stir the water gently, so that it all turns slightly white.







4 Shine the flashlight through the water again. Now the light looks orangered, just like the setting Sun!



Rosy dawn and fiery dusk
When the Sun is low in the
sky, in the morning and
evening, its light passes
through more air than at other
times of day. Tiny particles in
the air stop much of the Sun's
light. Only orange and red
light gets through.



Particles of milk in the—water cut out some of the colors in the light coming from the flashlight. Only orange and red rays get through.