

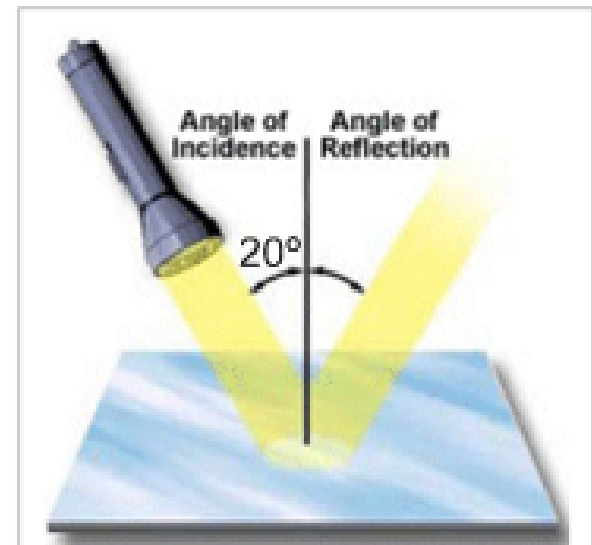
Lesson 3 Interactions of Waves

Waves change direction by reflection, refraction, and diffraction.

Reflection: When a wave hits a surface and bounces back.

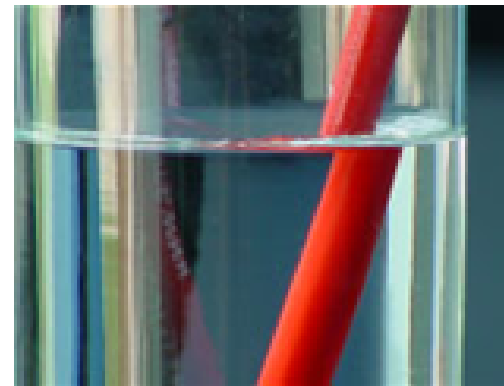
Law of Reflection: The angle of incidence = the angle of reflection.

video



Refraction: When a wave enters a new medium at an angle, one side of the wave changes speed before the other side. This causes the wave to bend.

Refraction is the bending of waves due to a change in speed.

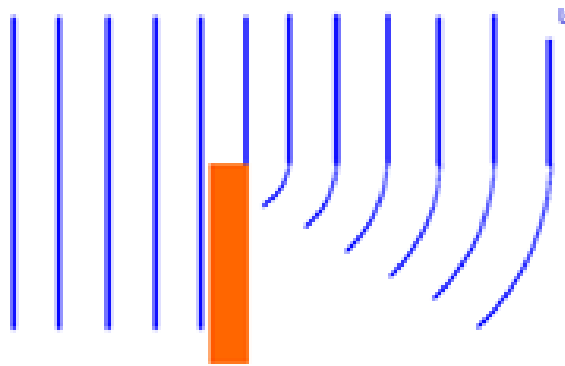


If the wave enters a medium at a right angle (straight 90°), no bending will occur.

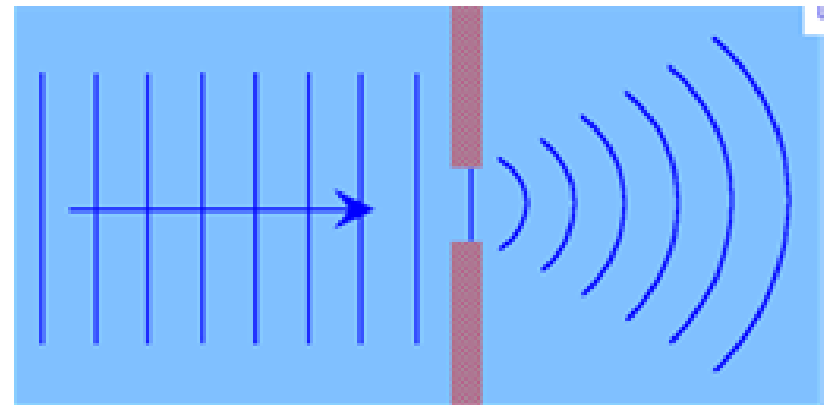
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Diffraction: When a wave moves around an object or through an opening in a barrier, it bends and spreads out.



bends and spreads out
around an object



bends and spreads out going
through an opening

