## Beating the Motion Sensor

# An Activity to Explore Material Properties and Lighting Controls

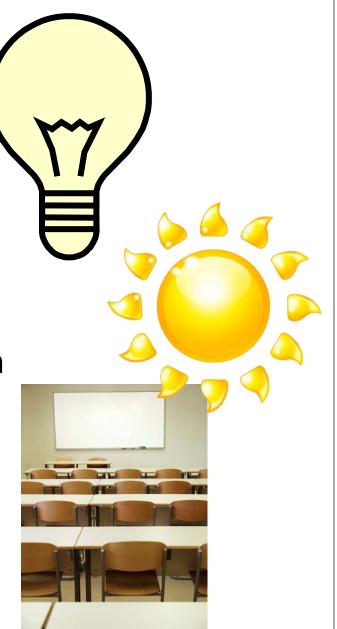
# **Lighting Controls**

 Lighting in buildings = 1/3 of our electricity.

How can we save energy for lighting?

 Turn the electrical lights OFF when there's enough light from the sun.

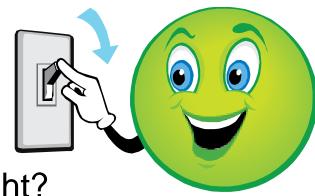
 Turn the lights OFF when there's no one in the room.



## **Lighting Controls**

What is the best way to control the lights?

# YOU!



- But we're not all perfect, right?
  - Install automatic controls to help with lighting control







## **Motion Sensors**

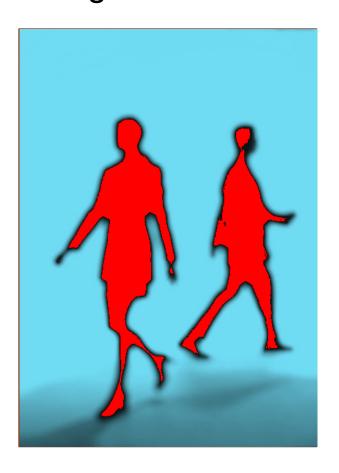
- Detect when a room is OCCUPIED or EMPTY
- Two types of technology:
  - Passive Infrared (PIR)
  - Ultrasonic
- Both types detect when something (or someone) is MOVING



### **PIR Sensors**

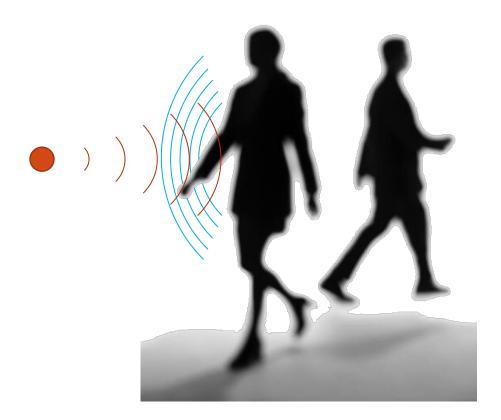
See something moving if it is hotter than its

background



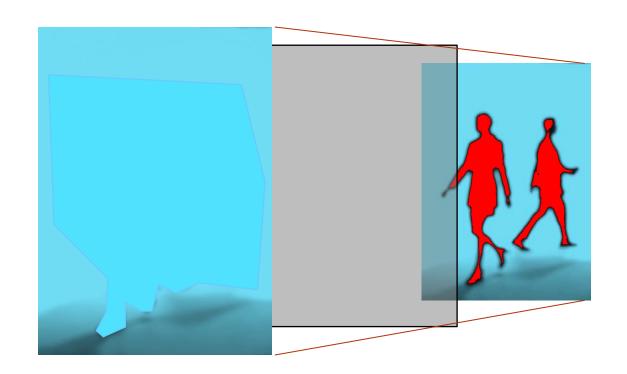
#### **Ultrasonic Sensors**

 See something moving if it changes the way sound is reflected back (Doppler Effect)



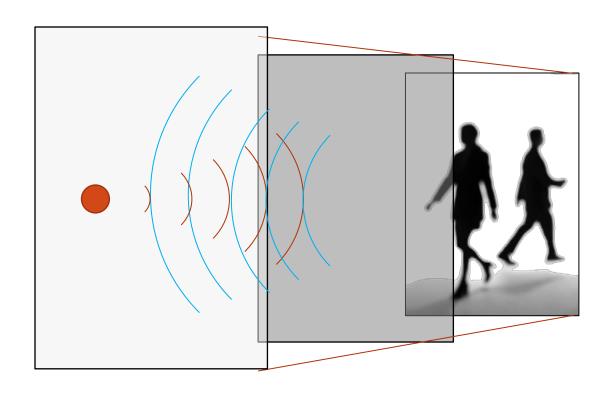
## **PIR Sensors**

 Won't "see" the motion if there is a material that blocks the heat



### **Ultrasonic Sensors**

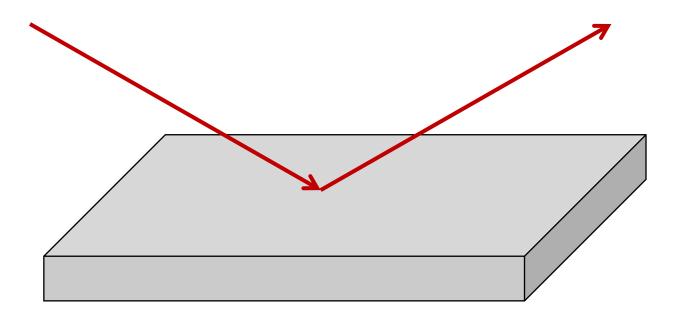
 Won't "see" the motion if there is a material that reflects the sound



## **Important Interactions**

How do materials interact with energy?

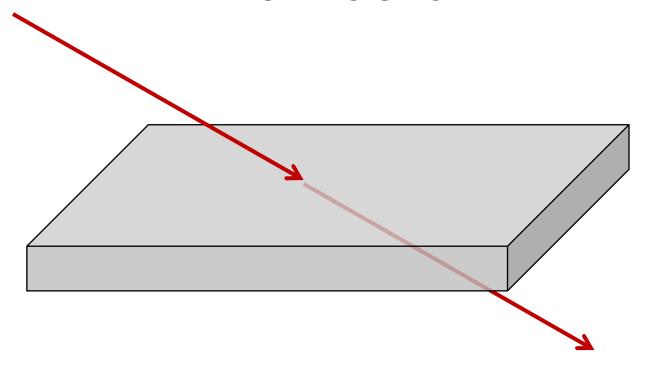
#### REFLECTION



## **Important Interactions**

How do materials interact with energy?

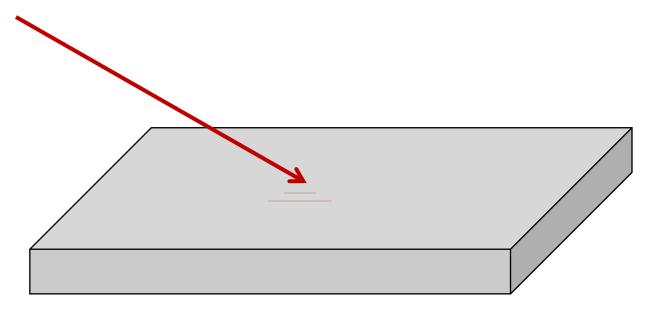
#### TRANSMISSION



## **Important Interactions**

How do materials interact with energy?

#### **ABSORPTION**

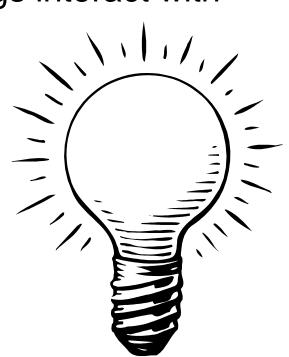


## **Activity**

- Let's BEAT the motion sensor!
  - BEATING THE SENSOR = If you can move your object in front of the sensor without the light coming on, you beat it.

 How do materials used in buildings interact with these sensors?

- Wood
- Metal
- Glass
- Fabric
- Acrylic
- ... others?
- Heat & sound energy



## As an Architectural Engineer...

- You are asked to select occupancy sensors to be used in different types of rooms that have different materials (see below).
  - What type of sensor would you select and why? (Using BOTH types together, known as "Dual-Technology" is also an option.)
  - Office: Fabric-covered metal cubicle walls
  - Warehouse: Metal shelves with wooden crates
  - Bathroom: Ceramic tile stall walls with metal doors
  - Airport Security: Glass interior walls