

Why do Stars twinkle?



A star is a massive, luminous ball of plasma that is held together by its own gravity. The nearest star to Earth is the Sun, which is the source of most of the energy on Earth. Other stars are visible in the night sky.

The Stars twinkle at night due to the temperature variation in the air.

When light enters a transparent medium, such as air, it generally gets scattered. The amount of light being scattered depends on the temperature. Warm air bends light less, while cool air bends light more. Thus we are able to see stars twinkle.



Activity

- Take the card with a small hole punched to simulate a star (Given in the Activity).
- Illuminate the card from one side in a dark room it will show a star like image.
- Keep a hot plate in between the card and the viewer, the image of star will start dancing.
- This is how the Stars Twinkle.



Make the Hole