

absorb

to draw in, or take in
the energy of a light
wave or sound wave

transparent

allows all light to
pass through, casts
no shadow

translucent

allows some light to
pass through, casts
a fuzzy shadow

opaque

allows no light to
pass through, casts
a crisp, dark shadow

reflection

the bouncing back of
light waves

refraction

the bending of light
waves

wavelength

the distance from
crest to crest, or
compression to
compression

crest

the highest point on
a wave

trough

a low area between waves

amplitude

the height of a wave

compression

an area where sound waves are pressed together

longitudinal waves

another name for compression waves

frequency

the number of times
a wave is repeated
within a period of
time

pitch

highness or lowness
of a sound

ultrasound

a way to create
images from inside
the body using
sound waves

sonar

a device used to
locate objects
underwater using
sound waves