

Fluorescence

What do you see in different light in the pictures?



Press the buttons to illuminate the various objects with different colours (wavelengths).

Notice the colour of the objects.

What do the objects look like in the different illuminations?

Fluorescence and phosphorescence are afterglow phenomena. The atoms are excited by light with high energy (violett, ultraviolett) and they emit light in a different colour, eg. green, yellow or orange. The reemitted light has by all means less energy, i.e. a longer wavelength. For fluorescence the afterglow lasts only a fraction of a second, whereas for phosphorescence it can last for hours.

Even for a higher intensity ("higher watts") of the red lamp the energy would not be sufficient to excite the atoms to glow.