

## FUNNY REFLECTIONS

**A. Question:** *What is symmetry?*

**B. Materials Needed:**

1. Unframed square or rectangular mirror (for each pair of students).

**C: Procedure:**

1. Print the following words each on a separate piece of blank paper in large, even, capital letters. CHEEK, BIKE, DECIDE, BOX, CHICK, CHOKE, BOOK, HIDE, CODE, DOCK, COOKIE.
2. Cut each piece of paper in half, right through the middle of each word printed, leaving the lower half of the word on the paper.
3. Now place the mirror vertically against the paper (perpendicular on the table) and look in the corner of the paper and the mirror.
4. Do this for each one of the words.

**D: Anticipated Results:**

Students should observe which letters are symmetrical.

**E: Thought Questions for Class Discussion:**

1. Will this work with any printed word?
2. Which of the letters, when cut in half, will appear whole with the mirror above it?
3. Which letters, when cut in half vertically, will give the other half in the mirror, when the half letter is held against it?

**F: Explanation:**

This activity will provide the student with the ability to recognize symmetrical objects and printed letters. It gives the student an opportunity to manipulate spatial relations. The image in the mirror shows that all images are actually formed behind the mirror. It is only with the letters: B, C, D, E, H, I, K, O and X, that the above activity can be carried out. All other letters will not give the upper half in the mirror. The following can be cut vertically in half and the other half will show up in the mirror, when held against it: A, H, I, M, O, T, U, V, W and X, Y. This activity gives the students an idea of **symmetry** and **symmetrical shapes**.