Diffraction and Reflection

Diffraction

- Waves spread as they travel. When they encounter a boundary, they bend around it and pass beyond .
- The amount of diffraction depends on the wavelength of the wave and the size of the opening in the boundary.
- If the wavelength and the opening in the boundary are similar, the diffraction pattern is concentric semicircular wave fronts.

Reflection

- The Law of Reflection states that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection.
- The angle of incidence and the angle of reflection are determined with respect to the normal (perpendicular) to the reflecting surface.