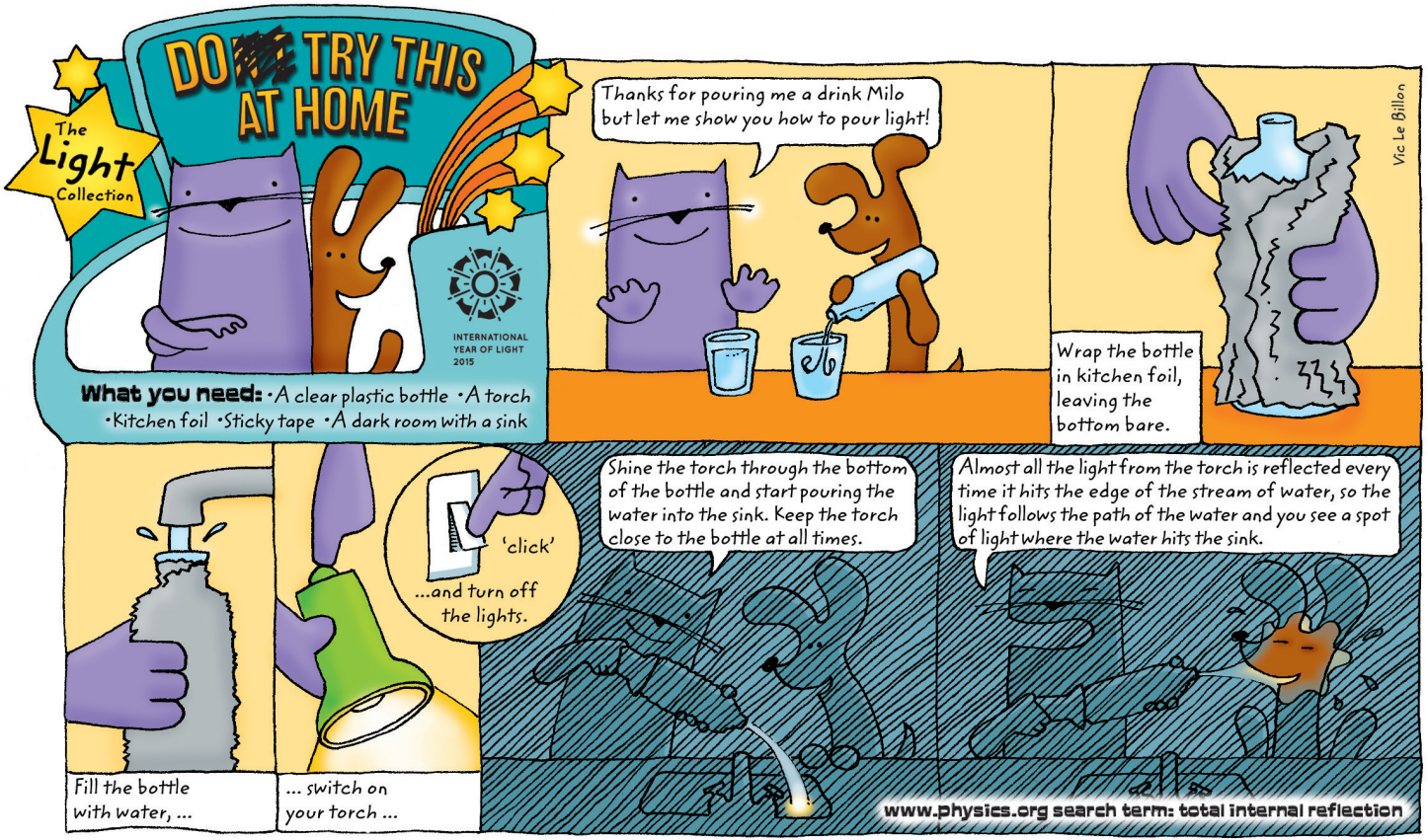
DO TRY THIS AT HOME
The Light Collection
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LIGHT 2015
What you need: •A clear plastic bottle •A torch •Kitchen foil •Sticky tape •A dark room with a sink
Thanks for pouring me a drink Milo but let me show you how to pour light!
Wrap the bottle in kitchen foil, leaving the bottom bare.
Vic Le Billon
Fill the bottle with water, ...
... switch on your torch ...
'click'
...and turn off the lights.
Shine the torch through the bottom of the bottle and start pouring the water into the sink. Keep the torch close to the bottle at all times.
Almost all the light from the torch is reflected every time it hits the edge of the stream of water, so the light follows the path of the water and you see a spot of light where the water hits the sink.
www.physics.org search term: total internal reflection