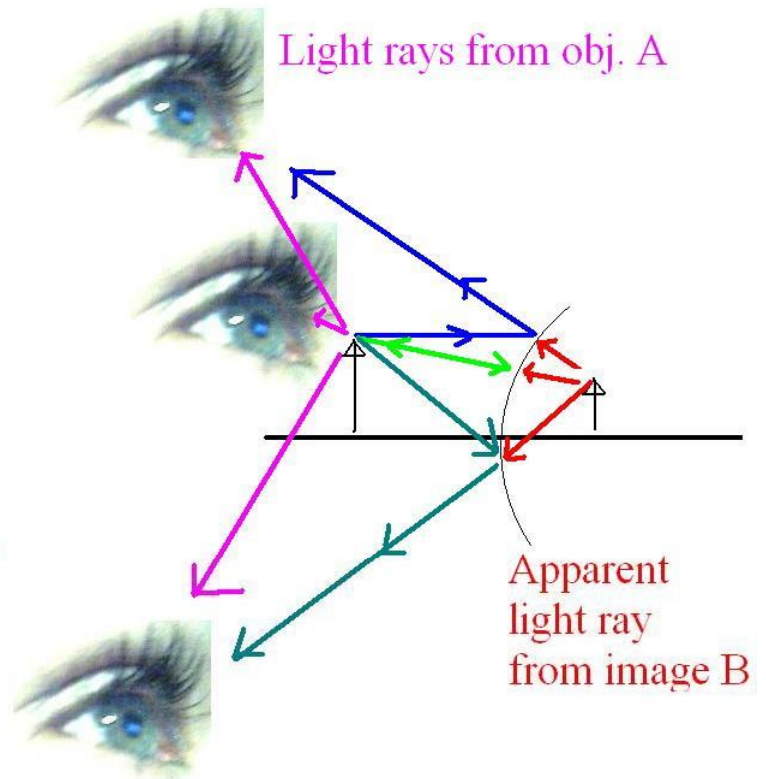


Real light ray paths reflecting off of mirror in green and blue. Notice how all 3 observers THINK the light rays are coming FROM exactly the same spot BEHIND the mirror! This is why an image forms behind the mirror. It's an illusion we have no matter where we are looking into the mirror, it seems like the image is really at position B!



Convex mirror example.

We want to believe that light is going in a straight line path from the object to us. So if a mirror is made so an IMAGE appears to do this, we're fooled into believing we're really looking at a true object. Can you see how the owl's head appears to be in the same location behind the mirror for any observer looking into the mirror no matter where the observer is positioned?