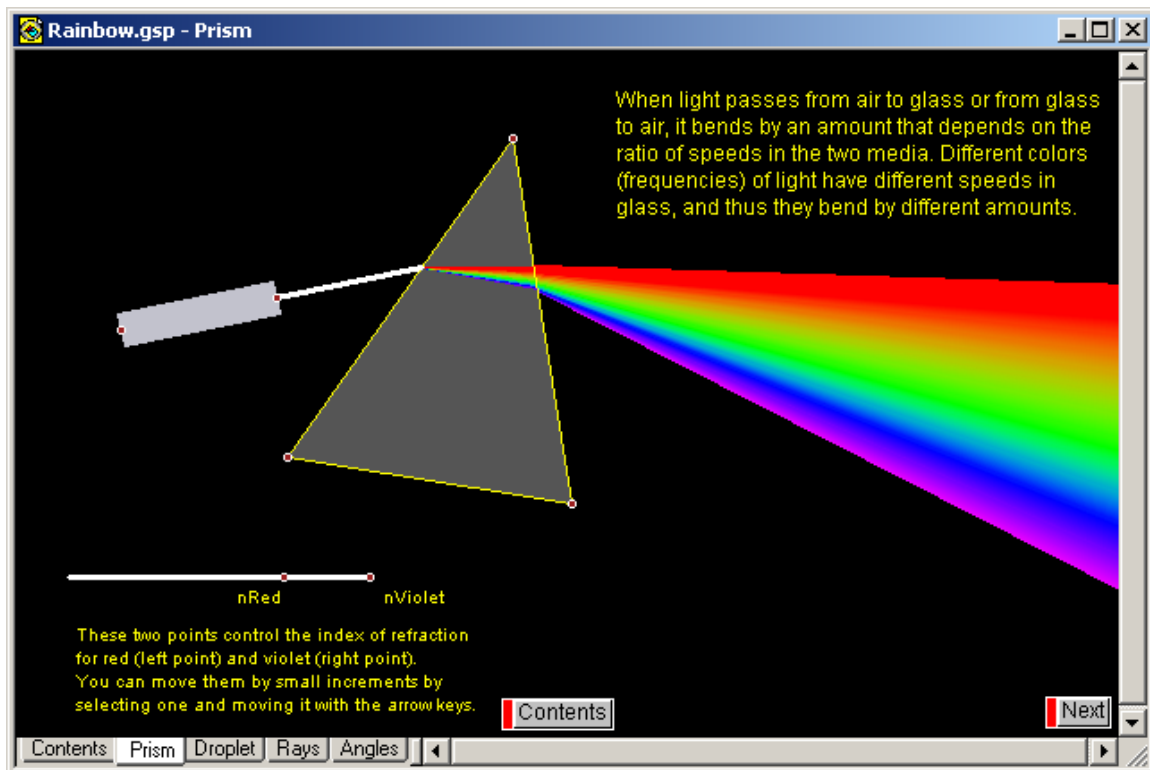


## Simulation Experiments for Teaching Physics:

The new version of Geometer's Sketchpad, GSP4, has recently been licensed for use in Ontario schools. Although it was designed as a dynamic geometry program, it is also a powerful tool for creating interactive physics demonstrations. For example, one of the "canned" files bundled with the software simulates refraction and dispersion of light in a triangular prism. The student can use a slider to adjust the relative indices of refraction among the colours, and instantly see the effect.



In addition, GSP4 includes an Export utility that allows a simulation to be saved as a Java applet. Students do not need to have GSP4 installed on their computers in order to run the applet. The applet runs under standard web browsers such as Netscape or Microsoft Internet Explorer. You can store these applets on a web site accessible to students through the Internet, and assign virtual experiments to be done at home.

If the full version of GSP4 has not yet reached your school, you can download an evaluation version at [www.keypress.com](http://www.keypress.com). It is fully functional, other than Save and Print functions. The site also contains information on creating Java applets using GSP4.