



Force and Motion Vocabulary



Friction
A force that resists motion when two forces are touching each other.

Gravity
A force that pulls all objects with mass toward one another.

Force
A push or a pull on an object that may change the motion of the object.

Acceleration
The rate of change of velocity that may include speeding up, slowing down, or changing direction.

Inertia
An object's tendency to resist a change in motion.

Motion
Any change in the location of an object.

Velocity
The distance an object travels in one unit of time.

Instantaneous Velocity
An object's speed and direction at any given instant.

Average Speed
The total distance an object travels divided by the total time traveled.

Constant Speed
Describes speed that does not change or remains the same.

Distance Traveled
How far an object has traveled.

Displacement
How far an object is away from where it started.

Position
Describes a place where an object is located.

Point of Reference
A point used to determine the position of an object.

Push or Pull
Describes using a force to move an object a distance when both the force and motion of the object are in the same direction.

Air Resistance
The frictional force air exerts against a moving object.