

Forces



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What are Forces?

A force is a push or a pull.

When you pull or push
a wagon, you place a force
on it. The force makes it move.



How Do We Use Forces?

If you give a ball a small push, it will move slowly.

It won't go very far.

If you give it a big push, it will move farther and faster.



The direction of the force
changes how an object moves.
Your friend kicks a ball to you.
Another friend kicks the ball.
It moves in a new direction.





Glossary

direction—the way that someone or something is moving

force—push or pull

friction—a force produced when two objects rub against each other; friction slows down objects

gravity—a force that pulls objects together

lubricant—a slippery substance that lets the surfaces of two objects slide over each other easily

motion—movement

pull—to tug something

push—to move something forward in front of you

rough—bumpy; not smooth

smooth—even and free from bumps

Critical Thinking Using the Common Core

1. What happens to a ball when you push it?
(Key Ideas and Details)
2. Name the force that pulls objects toward each other.
(Key Ideas and Details)
3. If you rub things together, friction makes them hot.
Can you think of how this could be useful?
(Integration of Knowledge and Ideas)

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