

Science Year 5: Forces

Subject Specific Vocabulary		Key Knowledge
gravity	The force that attracts a body to the centre of the earth or towards another physical body.	
Earth	The planet on which we live.	A force causes an object to start moving, stop moving, speed up, slow down or change direction.
pulley	A device consisting of a wheel over which a rope or chain is pulled in order to lift heavy objects.	
water-resistance	A force that acts in the opposite direction to an object moving through water.	Gravity is a force that acts at a distance. Everything is pulled to the Earth by gravity. This causes unsupported objects to fall. It is a non-contact force.
friction	The action of one surface or object rubbing against another.	
lever	A rigid bar resting on a pivot, used to move a heavy load or fixed object with one end while pressure is applied at the other.	Air resistance, water resistance and friction are contact forces that act between moving surfaces. The object may be moving through the air or water, or the air and water may be moving over a stationary object.
mechanism	A system of parts working together in a machine.	A mechanism is a device that allows a small force to be increased to a larger force. Pulleys, levers and gears are examples of mechanisms. Forces can be measured using a Newton meter.
air-resistance	A force that acts in the opposite direction to an object moving through the air.	
gear	A toothed wheel for changing the rate that energy is changed into motion.	