

# Science KS3 Forces and motion



## Glossary:

- **Acceleration**  
Speeding up.
- **Deceleration**  
Slowing down.
- **Density**  
A measure of how close the particles are packed together.
- **Displaced**  
Moved from its position and replaced
- **Force**  
Push, pull or twist an object, changing their motion or shape.
- **Gravity**  
The universal attraction between objects.
- **Inertia**  
Object continues its existing state or motion unless the state is changed by a force.
- **Irregular**  
Not regular, object has different sized sides.
- **Magnitude**  
Size
- **Mass**  
Amount of matter something contains, kilograms.
- **Moment**  
Turning effect of a force.
- **Motion**  
movement
- **Newton** Unit of force.
- **Particle**  
Atom or molecule.
- **Pivot**  
Central point where something turns.
- **Speed**  
Energy
- **Stationary**  
Not moving.
- **Weight**  
Force caused by the effect of gravity on a mass, newton.

## Activities

- Describe the forces acting on a stationary object.
- Look at this diagram of a stationary boat floating on water. The boat is made of metal and is heavy.



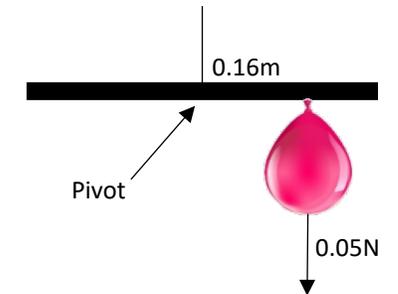
- Draw and label the forces acting on the boat.
- Explain why the boat floats even though it is made of a heavy metal.

- Draw and label the forces acting on this plane as it travels at a steady speed.



- Calculate the density of the following blocks in  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ 
  - 1Kg block with a volume of  $100\text{cm}^3$
  - 0.5Kg block with a volume of  $20\text{cm}^3$ .

- Calculate the moment the balloon produces about the pivot in the following diagram.



## QUICK QUESTIONS:

- State the equation linking distance, time and speed.
- State the equation linking force, moment and distance.
- State the equation linking density, volume and mass.
- What is the unit for force? What is the unit for weight?
- What is the unit for mass?
- What is a moment?

### 1. Speed

- **Speed (m/s) = distance (m) ÷ time (s)**
- The **speed** of a moving object is a measure of how far it will travel in a certain time.
- How quickly an object travels depends on its **mass** and the **force** acting on it.
- The greater the mass of an object the longer it takes to speed up or slow down, a property of mass called **inertia**.

### 2. Gravitational forces

- All objects on Earth are affected by **gravitational forces**. An object which stays at rest on the surface of the Earth has one or more forces acting on it, thus balancing the force of gravity.
- A book lying on a table does not fall because the atoms in the table are pushing upwards on the book with a force **equal** to the force of gravity.

### 3. Force diagrams

- We can show the **forces** acting on an object using **force arrows**.
- These arrows show the **size (magnitude)** and **direction** of the force.



### 4. Unbalanced forces

- If the forces acting on an object are **unbalanced** the object will either **speed up (acceleration)**, **slow down (deceleration)** or **change direction**.
- **Unbalanced forces cause change**.

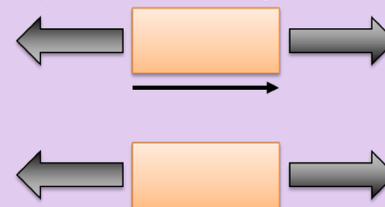


KS3 Spine

## Forces and motion

### 5. Balanced forces

- **Equal and opposite forces** are found on **stationary objects** and those travelling at a **steady speed**.
- An object with equal and opposite forces acting on it will carry on doing what it is already doing.
- **Balanced forces cause no change**.

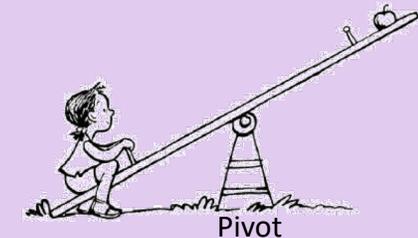


### 6. Floating

- Objects **float** on water because they are **less dense** than the water.
- An object **floating** on a **liquid**, or in **air**, does not move because there is an **upward force balancing the downward force of gravity**.
- The **upward force is equal** to the **weight** of the fluid **displaced**. So heavy objects can float if they are hollowed out to displace a large weight of water.

### 7. Moments

- **Moment (Nm) = force (N) x distance (m)**
- A **moment** is the **turning effect of a force** around a **pivot**.



### 8. Density

- **Density = mass ÷ volume**
- Density is a measure of how **closely the particles are packed** together in a particular space. The **closer** the particles are packed together, the **heavier** the object feels for its **size**.
- The **volume** of an **irregular shaped object**, like a stone, can be found by measuring the volume of the water **displaced** by the object.