

Newton and Me

A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

Themes: Force, Motion, Physics, Friendship

Grade Level: K to 2nd grade

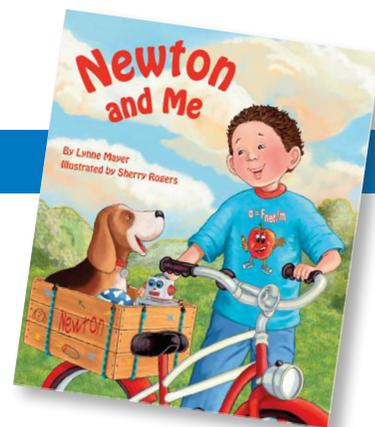
Book Brief: A boy and his dog discover how the laws of force and motion affect their everyday lives.

Author:

Lynne Mayer

Illustrator:

Sherry Rogers



TIME TO READ!

Before reading: Put a toy car on the table. Ask the children why the car isn't moving. What would it take to move it? Explain that a famous scientist named Sir Isaac Newton made many discoveries hundreds of years ago about how and why objects move. This story is about a boy who makes those same discoveries while playing.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

MARBLE MADNESS (AGES 5-12)

Materials: marbles, string (or masking tape)

The classic game of marbles is all about using force and motion to knock other players' marbles out of play. Watch this instructional video www.landofmarbles.com/marbles-play.html and divide children into groups of 2-6 to play.

POPPER POWER (AGES 5-12)

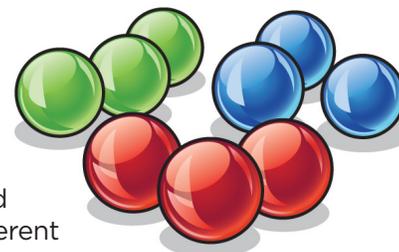
Materials: sturdy paper cup, balloon, scissors, pompoms, mini marshmallows

Cut the bottom out of the cup. Cut off the top of the balloon and stretch it over the bottom of the cup; tie a knot in the end. (Secure with tape if needed.) Place a pompom in the cup, pull back the balloon, and release, like a slingshot. How far did the pompom go? Try a marshmallow. Which went farther? Why? Does pulling back more or less on the balloon make a difference?

A DAY AT THE RACES (AGES 5-8)

Materials: pool noodle cut in half lengthwise, marbles, blocks (or books)

Have children experiment with marbles and inclines. Use each noodle half as a track for the marbles. Raise the end of each noodle to different heights using blocks for support. Have the children predict which marble will be faster. Repeat the experiment. Why does the marble rolling down the higher incline go faster?



TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/sid/activities/forceandmotion> to find a fun experiment with force for the playground.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT FORCE AND MOTION

Move It! Motion, Forces and You, Adrienne Mason (2005), *Forces and Motion*, Clint Twist (2009), *And Everyone Shouted, "Pull!"*, Claire Llewellyn (2004).

TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

www.rif.org/kids



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