Newton and Me

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

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:

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Illustrator:

Sherry Rogers





TIME TO READ!

Before reading, make predictions: Look at the front cover and the title. Who is Newton? What is the boy interested in?

While reading, make connections: Has your child ever done the things Newton and the boy do in the story?

After reading, ask questions:

- Why does the ball roll faster and farther when the boy gives it a big push?
- Why does the truck go faster downhill?
- Why is it hard to pedal a bike uphill?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

A SALUTE TO SIR NEWT!

According to popular legend, Sir Isaac Newton discovered gravity when an apple fell on his head.

Ingredients: 1 apple, 1/2 cup crushed rice cereal, 3/4 tsp. brown sugar, 1 tbs. cream cheese

Mix cereal and brown sugar. Core and cut the apple into wedges. Spread the apple sides with cream cheese; dip in cereal mixture to coat. Enjoy!

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.landof marbles.com/marbles-play.html and play a game of your own! If you don't have marbles, make a small circle on the floor or a table and try using quarters and pennies or dimes.

RAMP IT UP!

Materials: small toy cars, blocks (or books), strong cardboard or wood board

Start with the board on a flat surface. Give the car a little push along

the board. How far does it go? Next, prop one end of the board up on one block. Release the car at the top of the ramp. Repeat your experiment, making the ramp higher each time. What do you notice about how far and fast the car travels?

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit http://www.pbs.org/teachers/sid/activities/forceandmotion for a fun outdoor activity about force.

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).



