

FOSS Balance and Motion Module

Glossary

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arch a curved shape (IG)

at a distance from far away; not close by (IG)

axis a straight line around which something turns (SRB, IG)

axle a rod or shaft to which wheels can be attached (IG)

balance to be in a stable position (SRB, IG)

balance point the place on which an object balances (IG)

compass a magnetic needle in a case. Compass needles on Earth point north. (SRB)

counterbalance to place weights on an object to keep it in a stable position (SRB, IG)

counterweight weight added to a system to make it balance (SRB, IG)

crayfish a freshwater shellfish (IG)

disk an object that is a circle in only one direction and can fall over; a disk can be a wheel (IG)

force a push or a pull (SRB, IG)

friction a force that opposes motion (IG)

gravity a force that pulls things toward Earth (SRB, IG)

kalimba an African thumb piano with steel springs that vibrate at various rates (IG)

knot to firmly tie two pieces of material together (IG)

loop an opening that is made by curving a piece of material into a circle (IG)

machine something that helps people do work. A machine can make heavy things move by using a push or a pull. (SRB, IG)

magnet an object that sticks to iron and steel. Magnets can push or pull other magnets or objects made of iron or steel. (SRB, IG)

magnetism a force that can work on another object without touching it (SRB, IG)

mobile a system of balanced beams and objects (IG)

motion the act of moving (SRB, IG)

pitch how high or low a sound is (SRB, IG)

property something you can observe about an object or a material. Volume is an example of a property of sound. (SRB)

pull when you make things move toward you. Pulling is a force. (SRB)

push when you make things move away from you. Pushing is a force. (SRB)

ramp an object that has a slope (IG)

roll to move by turning over and over from one place to another (SRB, IG)

rotate to turn in circles a lot of times; to spin (IG)

runway a path over which something moves or lands (IG)

shaft something that acts as an axis (IG)

slope a surface that is higher on one end (IG)

sound something you hear (SRB, IG)

sphere an object that is round in all directions and rolls in all directions (IG)

spin to move by turning around an axis (SRB, IG)

stable position steady, not falling over (SRB, IG)

system a set of objects that are related in some way and can be isolated for study; a group of things or parts that form a whole (IG)

tool something that helps people do work. A tool can make things move by using a push or a pull. (SRB, IG)

top a toy that spins (IG)

triangle a three-sided shape (IG)

unstable when something is not steady and falls over (IG)

vibration a back-and-forth motion. Vibration makes sound. (SRB, IG)

volume how soft or loud a sound is (SRB, IG)

weight how heavy something is (IG)

wheel an object that is a circle in only one direction and can fall over; a wheel is a disk (IG)

whirl to move or turn around quickly or suddenly (IG)

wing the moveable appendages that birds and other animals use to fly (IG)

work tasks to be accomplished. People use tools and machines to make work easier. (IG)

xylophone a musical instrument made from a set of bars or tubes of various lengths that make sounds with different pitches (IG)

zoomer a toy made from a plastic disk and a piece of string; it spins around when tension is released from the twisted string (IG)