

OPPOSING FORCES

KEY IDEAS

- Unbalanced forces produce motion
- A stronger force always wins over a weaker force
- Balanced forces prevent motion

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

- What do you think makes objects move?
- What do you think makes objects stop moving?
- When something is not moving, what are the forces acting on it doing?

UNBALANCED FORCES CAUSE CHANGES IN MOTION

- Pushes and pulls cause things to start moving, speed up, slow down, change direction or stop moving.
- All changes in motion happen because of unbalanced forces.
- Motion increases when a force is being exerted.
- Motion stops when a force opposes the motion.

FORCES CAN OPPOSE EACH OTHER

- Two forces acting against each other are opposing (the two different pulls in a tug of war, for example).
 - If one of these forces is stronger than the other one, it will always win.
 - If the opposing forces are pushing or pulling something with equal strength, the object will not move because the two forces are balancing each other.
- Change in movement depends upon forces being unbalanced.

