## Newton's 3rd Law

For every action.....

(The "Action Reaction Law")

#### **Action and Reaction**

Newton's third law describes something else that happens when one object exerts a **force** on another object.

According to Newton's third law of motion forces always act in *equal* but opposite pairs.

#### **Action and Reaction**

Another way of saying this
For every action, there is an equal but <u>opposite</u> reaction!\*

Action and Reaction Forces Don't Cancel

The forces exerted by two objects on each other are often called and <u>action-reaction</u> force pair.

Action and reaction force pairs don't <u>cancel</u> because they act on different objects.

You constantly use actionreaction force pairs as you move about.

When you jump, you **<u>push</u>** down on the ground.

The ground then pushes up on you. It is this **<u>upward</u>** force that pushes you into the air.



When a bird flies, its wings push air in a **downward** and a backward direction.

By Newton's third law, the air resistance pushes back on the bird in the opposite .directions—<u>upward</u> and forward.

This force keeps a bird in the air and propels it forward – an **OPPOSITE BUT** *EQUAL* FORCE! Action Reaction!!!

#### Large and Small Objects

When you run forward, you **push** backward on the ground.

Your shoe pushes Earth backward, and Earth pushes your shoe <u>forward.</u>



Large and Small Objects...why don't I always feel this "push" back?!? *Earth has sooo much mass* compared to you, that it does not move <u>noticeably</u> when you push it.

If you step on something that has <u>less</u> <u>mass</u> than you do, like a skateboard, you can see it being pushed back.

Reactio

#### **A Rocket Launch**

When the rocket fuel is ignited, a hot gas is produced.

As the gas molecules collide with the inside engine walls, the walls exert a force that pushes them out of the bottom of the engine.



#### **A Rocket Launch**

This downward push is the action force.

The reaction force is the upward push on the rocket engine by the gas molecules.

This is the thrust that propels the rocket upward.



## Weightlessness

You might have seen pictures of astronauts floating inside a space shuttle as it orbits Earth.

The astronauts are said to be weightless, but do the laws of Forces still apply?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCF--YOjiOw

## **Measuring Weight**

When you stand on a scale, your weight pushes down on the scale.

This causes the scale pointer to point to your weight.



#### **Measuring Weight**

At the same time, by Newton's third law the scale pushes up on you with a force equal to your weight.

This force balances the downward pull of gravity on you.

#### **Free Fall and Weightlessness**

Now suppose you were standing on a scale in a elevator that is falling.

A falling object is in free fall when the only force acting on the force is gravity. You and the scale are

both in free fall.



#### **Free Fall and Weightlessness**

Because the only force acting on you is gravity, the scale no longer is pushing up on you.

According to Newton's third law, you no longer push down on the scale.



#### **Free Fall and Weightlessness**

So the scale pointer stays at zero and you seem to be weightless.

Weightlessness is the condition that occurs in free fall when the weight of an object seems to be zero.



# This is known as the "Action-Reaction" Law

# So far Newton has explained...

- Speed...
- Velocity...
- Acceleration...
- Force...
- Newton also went on to explain the *"quantity of motion"* called MOMENTUM!

# **Momentum = Mass x Velocity**

- Objects with a lot of <u>momentum</u>, have a lot of motion.
- They have a high amount of a *push* or *pull* (force) going on.
- An objects momentum is dependent upon its mass and its <u>velocity</u> (speed).
- <u>Momentum</u> = mass x velocity(units in kg x m/s)

Objects with a greater mass have greater momentum. Objects with a greater velocity have greater momentum. And vise-versa for both concepts.

 If you know the mass and velocity of two different objects, you can determine their <u>momentum</u> by using:

Momentum = mass x velocity

## **Conservation of Momentum:**

- If someone bumps in to you from behind, you gain momentum & move forward.
- When two objects collide, in the absence of friction, momentum is not lost.

The Law of Conservation of Momentum does not change when objects interact, it remains the same before and after the interaction.

## Law of Conservation of Momentum







 The Law of **Conservation of Momentum** states that the total momentum of any group of objects remains the same unless an outside force acts on the objects!

## **Guided PrAcTiCe!**

- Which has more momentum, a 3 kg sledgehammer (a) swung at 1.5 m/s, or a 4 kg sledgehammer (b) swung at 0.9 m/s?
- (a) 3 kg x 1.5 m/s = kg x m/s
- (b) 4 kg x 0.9 m/s = kg x m/s
- A has more momentum than the heavier one, because it is swung with a greater velocity – almost twice as fast!

## **Independent PrAcTiCe!**

- 1. A golf ball travels at 16 m/s, while a baseball moves at 7 m/s. The mass of the golf ball is 0.045 kg and the mass of the baseball is 0.14 kg. Which had greater momentum?
- Golf ball = = kg x m/s
- Baseball = = kg x m/s
- 2. What is the momentum of a bird with a mass of 0.018 kg flying at 15 m/s?