

Key Vocabulary

forces	Pushes or pulls.
gravity	A pulling force exerted by the Earth (or anything else which has mass).
weight	The measure of the force of gravity on an object. (Newtons)
mass	A measure of how much matter (or 'stuff') is inside an object. (kg)
friction	A force that acts between two surfaces or objects that are moving, or trying to move, across each other.
air resistance	A type of friction caused by air pushing against any moving object.
water resistance	A type of friction caused by water pushing against any moving object.
buoyancy	An object is buoyant if it floats. This is because the weight of the object is equal to the upthrust .
streamlined	When an object is shaped to minimise the effects of air or water resistance .
mechanism	Parts which work together in a machine. Examples of mechanisms are pulleys, gears and levers.
upthrust	A force that pushes objects up, usually in water.

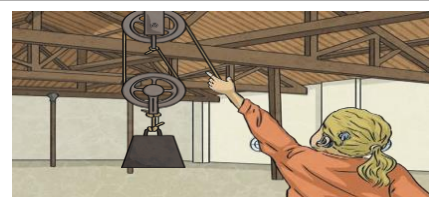
Key Knowledge

Examples of **forces** in action:



Water resistance and **air resistance** are forms of **friction**. **Friction** is sometimes helpful and sometimes unhelpful. For example, **air resistance** is helpful as it stops the skydiver hitting the ground at high speed. **Friction** on a bike chain can make the bike harder to pedal so it is unhelpful.

Pulleys



Pulleys can be used to make a small **force** lift a heavier load. The more wheels in a pulley, the less **force** is needed to lift a **weight**.

Gears/Cogs



Gears or cogs can be used to change the speed, **force** or direction of a motion. When two gears are connected, they always turn in the opposite direction to each other.

Levers



Levers can be used to make a small **force** lift a heavier load. A lever always rests on a pivot.



Isaac Newton is famously thought to have developed his theory of **gravity** when he saw an apple fall to the ground from an apple tree.

