

Do Now: Label Left and Right

Universal Gravitation

▶ Answer on Left Side

▶ Which of the following are part of our system:

Planets

Black holes

Comets

Nearby stars other than the Sun

Distant stars

Asteroids

Galaxies

Human made satellites

The Sun (Sol)

Natural satellites

Constellations

Universe

Moons

Gravity



Questions

- ▶ What keeps the planets in orbit around the sun?
- ▶ What prevents them from flying off into space?
- ▶ Gravity
- ▶ Gravity is a relatively weak attractive force that can act across great distances.

Gravity

- ▶ Universal force

- ▶ Every object exerts an attractive force on every other object in the universe.

Gravity and Mass

- ▶ **Mass**

- ▶ The amount of matter in an object.

- ▶ **Gravity is the result of mass.**

- ▶ Because all objects have mass, all objects experience an attraction toward all other objects.

Gravity

- ▶ Since it is relatively a weak force.....the mass of most objects is too small to produce a force large enough to overcome inertia.
- ▶ What is inertia?????
 - ▶ The tendency for an object at rest to remain at rest or an object in motion to continue moving.

Mass of Objects

- ▶ Earth has enough mass to exert a gravitational force that can overcome the inertia of objects on or near its surface.
- ▶ The larger an object is, the greater the gravitational force it exerts on objects around it.

Earth's Gravity

- ▶ Earth's gravitational force pulls everything toward the center of the Earth.
- ▶ Because of this force, every object on Earth's surface stays in place UNLESS an unbalanced force is large enough to overcome Earth's gravitational force.



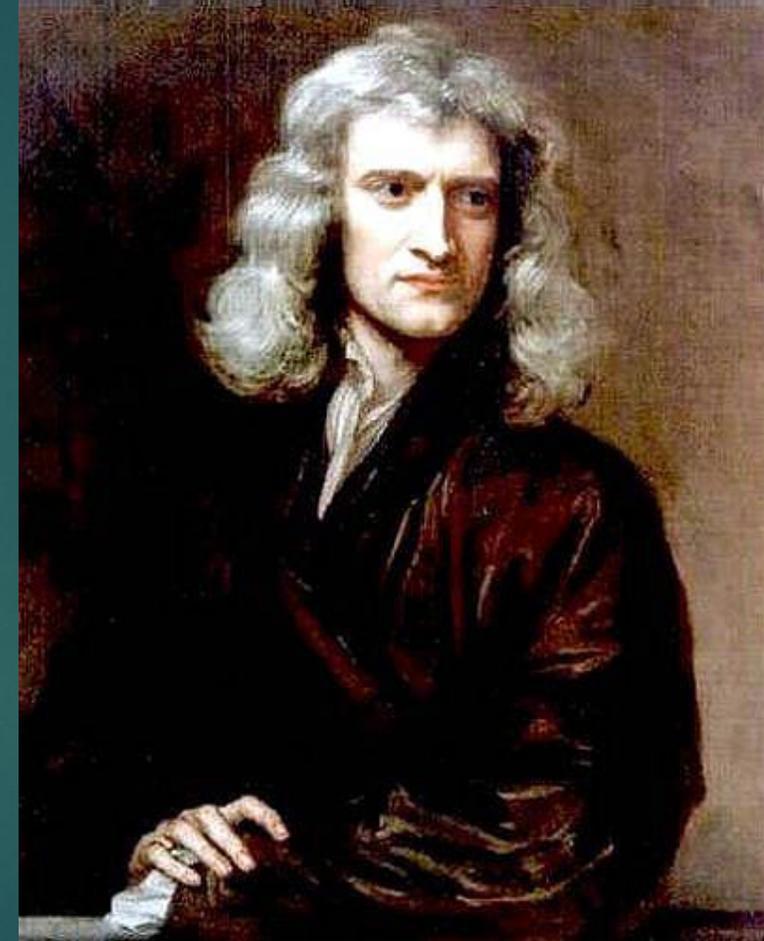
How can you overcome Earth's gravity?

- ▶ Lifting an object
- ▶ Jumping off the ground



Law of Universal Gravitation

- ▶ Isaac Newton realized that a gravitational force causes objects to fall toward Earth and keeps the planets in orbit.
- ▶ This law summarizes the relationship between mass, distance, and the force of gravity.



Gravity

- ▶ Gravitational attraction increases as mass increases.
- ▶ Gravitational attraction decreases as the distance between objects increase.
- ▶ Which would have greater gravitational attraction on Earth: Bowling Ball or Ping Pong Ball??????



Weight vs Mass

- ▶ Mass is the measure of how much matter is in an object and can be measured using a balance.
 - ▶ Your mass is the same on Earth and on the Moon.
- ▶ Weight is the measure of the pull of gravity on an object.
 - ▶ Your weight would be different on Earth and on the Moon.

Gravity: Earth/Moon



- ▶ Gravity and Inertia work together to keep planets/moons moving in a regular orbit or path in space.
- ▶ The moon is in an orbit around Earth because at some point it was moving past Earth. The moon was moving in a straight path and its inertia was keeping it going in this path.

Gravity: Earth/Moon

- ▶ As it moved closer to Earth, Earth's gravity began to pull hard enough on the Moon to change the Moon's path.
- ▶ These forces keep the moon in orbit around the Earth. (inertia of moon.....gravity between Earth and Moon)