



**Subject Area:** Physics  
**Unit Title:** Understanding the First Law of Motion  
**Grade Level:** 9-12  
**Lesson Number:** 1 of 10

**Duration:** 60 minutes  
**Date:** March 10, 2024  
**Teacher:** Ms. Johnson  
**Room:** Physics Lab

## Curriculum Standards Alignment

### Content Standards:

- PS2.A: Motion and Stability
- PS2.B: Types of Interactions

### Skills Standards:

- Scientific and Engineering Practices
- Cross-Cutting Concepts

### Cross-Curricular Links:

- Mathematics: Graphing and Data Analysis
- English Language Arts: Technical Writing and Communication

## Essential Questions & Big Ideas

### Essential Questions:

- What is the relationship between an object's motion and the forces acting upon it?
- How does the First Law of Motion explain the behavior of objects in the natural world?

### Enduring Understandings:

- The First Law of Motion describes the relationship between an object's motion and the forces acting upon it.
- The law of inertia is a fundamental concept in understanding the behavior of objects in the natural world.

## Student Context Analysis

**Class Profile:**

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

**Learning Styles Distribution:**

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%



## Pre-Lesson Preparation

### Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a U-shape to facilitate group discussions
- Set up equipment for hands-on activities

### Technology Needs:

- Computer with internet access
- Projector and screen

### Materials Preparation:

- Printed copies of the lesson plan and worksheets
- Equipment for hands-on activities

### Safety Considerations:

- Ensure students wear safety goggles during hands-on activities
- Supervise students during experiments

## Detailed Lesson Flow

### Introduction and Hook (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of motion and ask students about their experiences with motion
- Use a hook to capture students' attention, such as a video or a demonstration of a moving object

### Direct Instruction (10 minutes)

- Provide a clear and concise explanation of the First Law of Motion
- Use visual aids and examples to illustrate the concept

#### Engagement Strategies:

- Ask students to share their thoughts and questions
- Use think-pair-share to encourage discussion

### Guided Practice (15 minutes)

- Distribute a worksheet with scenarios that illustrate the First Law of Motion
- Have students work in pairs to read each scenario and identify whether the object is at rest or in motion

#### Scaffolding Strategies:

- Provide sentence stems to help students explain their thinking
- Encourage students to use visual aids to support their explanations

### Independent Practice (20 minutes)

- Have students participate in a hands-on activity to design and conduct an experiment to demonstrate the First Law of Motion
- Provide materials, such as marbles, ramps, and stopwatches, for students to collect data and analyze their results

#### **Closure and Review (10 minutes)**

- Review the key concepts learned during the lesson
- Have students reflect on what they have learned, discussing how the First Law of Motion applies to their everyday lives



## Differentiation & Support Strategies

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support and scaffolding during guided practice
- Offer one-on-one instruction and feedback

### For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions during independent practice
- Encourage students to design and conduct their own experiments

### ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers to support language development
- Encourage students to use visual aids to support their explanations

### Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage students to reflect on their learning and set goals for themselves
- Provide opportunities for students to work in groups and develop teamwork skills

## Assessment & Feedback Plan

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Observe student participation during group discussions and activities
- Review student worksheets and provide feedback

### Success Criteria:

- Students can define the concept of inertia and explain its relationship to the First Law of Motion
- Students can describe the role of force in changing the motion of an object

### Feedback Methods:

- Provide written feedback on student worksheets
- Offer verbal feedback during one-on-one instruction

## Homework & Extension Activities

### Homework Assignment:

Have students research and write a short essay on a real-world application of the First Law of Motion.

### Extension Activities:

- Have students design and conduct an experiment to demonstrate the Second Law of Motion
- Encourage students to research and present on a topic related to physics and motion

### Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents/guardians to ask their child about what they learned in class and how they can apply it to their everyday lives.

## Teacher Reflection Space

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### Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

### Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

## What is the First Law of Motion?

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The First Law of Motion, also known as the Law of Inertia, states that an object at rest will remain at rest, and an object in motion will continue to move with a constant velocity, unless acted upon by an external force.

## Key Concepts

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### **Inertia:**

- The tendency of an object to resist changes in its motion

### **Force:**

- A push or pull that causes an object to change its motion

### **Motion:**

- The change in position of an object over time

## Real-World Applications

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The First Law of Motion has many real-world applications, including:

- Designing safety features for vehicles
- Developing new technologies for space exploration
- Understanding the behavior of objects in the natural world



## Introduction to the First Law of Motion

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The First Law of Motion is a fundamental concept in physics that describes the relationship between an object's motion and the forces acting upon it.

## Key Concepts

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### **Inertia:**

- The tendency of an object to resist changes in its motion

### **Force:**

- A push or pull that causes an object to change its motion

### **Motion:**

- The change in position of an object over time

## Visual Aids and Examples

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Visual aids and examples can help students understand the concept of the First Law of Motion, including:

- Diagrams of objects in motion
- Graphs of velocity and acceleration
- Real-world examples of the First Law of Motion in action



### Worksheet Activity

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Distribute a worksheet with scenarios that illustrate the First Law of Motion, and have students work in pairs to read each scenario and identify whether the object is at rest or in motion.

### Guided Discussion

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Lead a guided discussion to help students understand the concept of the First Law of Motion, including:

- Asking students to share their thoughts and questions
- Using think-pair-share to encourage discussion

### Scaffolding Strategies

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Provide scaffolding strategies to support students who need extra help, including:

- Providing sentence stems to help students explain their thinking
- Encouraging students to use visual aids to support their explanations

## Experiment Design

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Have students design and conduct an experiment to demonstrate the First Law of Motion, including:

- Providing materials, such as marbles, ramps, and stopwatches
- Having students collect data and analyze their results

## Data Analysis

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Have students analyze their data and draw conclusions about the First Law of Motion, including:

- Graphing their data to visualize the relationship between force and motion
- Writing a short report to explain their findings

## Conclusion

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Have students reflect on what they have learned, discussing how the First Law of Motion applies to their everyday lives and how it can be used to solve real-world problems.



# Assessment and Evaluation: Understanding the First Law of Motion

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## Formative Assessment Strategies

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Use formative assessment strategies to monitor student progress and understanding, including:

- Observing student participation during group discussions and activities
- Reviewing student worksheets and providing feedback

## Summative Assessment

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Use a comprehensive quiz or test to evaluate student understanding at the end of the lesson, including:

- Multiple-choice questions to assess knowledge
- Short-answer prompts to assess understanding

## Project-Based Assessment

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Have students design and conduct an experiment to demonstrate the First Law of Motion, and evaluate their understanding through a project-based assessment, including:

- Providing a rubric to guide student work
- Assessing student understanding through a presentation or report

## Summary

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In conclusion, the First Law of Motion is a fundamental concept in physics that describes the relationship between an object's motion and the forces acting upon it.

## Future Directions

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Future lessons will build on this foundation, exploring more complex concepts in physics and motion, including:

- The Second Law of Motion
- The Third Law of Motion

## Additional Resources

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For further learning and exploration, the following resources are recommended:

- PhET Interactive Simulations
- Khan Academy Videos
- Physics for Scientists and Engineers



## Glossary

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**Inertia:**

- The tendency of an object to resist changes in its motion

**Force:**

- A push or pull that causes an object to change its motion

**Motion:**

- The change in position of an object over time

## Appendix

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The appendix includes additional resources and materials, such as worksheets, quizzes, and project templates, to support the lesson plan and provide further learning opportunities for students.