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Activities

Newton's Apple

Name: _____ Date: _____

Did Isaac Newton really get bonked on the head by an apple and "discover" gravity? We'll never know for sure. But observing things fall or collide sharpened his thoughts on gravity and motion. You'll find out more in this Planet Diary activity.

Directions

- Find out about Newton's apple. Read the first two paragraphs, then answer Workspace questions 1 through 3.
- Find out about Newton's 1st law. Scroll to *What does this mean?* Watch the skateboard and car animations. Answer question 4.
- Continue to Newton's 2nd law. Use the text and animations to answer question 5.
- Go to Newton's 3rd law. Read the text and look at the examples. Then answer the last question.
- Take this quiz to test your knowledge of Newton's laws.

Workspace

1. How does the concept of acceleration apply to Newton's apple?

2. What's the connection between the falling apple and gravity?

3. Which of Newton's laws does the situation illustrate?

4. Use Newton's 1st law to explain why the skater falls off his skate.

5. Use Newton's 2nd law to explain why the stick-figure in the top animation says "ouch" while the one in the lower animation says "fun."

6. How does Newton's 3rd law apply to a rocket blasting off?

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