

Grades
3-5



Force & Motion SCAVENGER HUNT

Chaperones: Use this Scavenger Hunt to guide your students through the exhibits. Allow your students to select one or more of the following areas; Ocean, Space or Gadgets, and spend as much time as possible exploring force and motion there. Learn everything you can about the way things push, pull, fall, fly or spin. There is no one right answer or answer key, so its okay to be creative. Before beginning, read your group the following:

“A force is a push or a pull that makes something move, or makes it stay in place. While we’re in the area, I want you all to find as many forces as you can. Make a list of all of the forces you find.”



In Ocean’s water area, there is an exhibit called Balance Balls. (Balls that float on streams of water.) There are two primary forces acting on the balls while they are floating. One is a push, the other is a pull. What is providing the push? What is providing the pull? What directions are these forces traveling?

A force is a push or a pull that makes something move, or makes it stay in place. While in Ocean, list all the forces you can find.



In Space, there is a two-liter bottle rocket. When the rocket is launched, we see an example of Newton’s Third Law of Motion: “For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.” Explain how this rocket demonstrates this concept.

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A force is a push or a pull that makes something move, or makes it stay in place. While we are in Space, I want you all to find as many forces as you can. Draw a picture of a force happening in an exhibit. Add arrows to show the moving parts.



In Gadgets, there is a device that launches balls into the air. What provides the force to push the ball into the air? Launch one ball. What happened? Predict what will happen if you launch two, five or even ten balls. Where will they land? What caused them to land in a different place?

A force is a push or a pull that makes something move, or makes it stay in place. In Gadgets, list all of the things that are moving, and all of the things that cause them to move.

Brain Challenge: What if you had to get some supplies to the roof of COSI without using stairs or ladders. Think about some of the force & motion exhibits you have been exploring. What are some creative ways to move a heavy box from the ground up to the roof?