Feel the Force!

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Physics

Grade Level: 3rd to 5th grade

Book Brief: This hands-on introduction to physics explains why things work the way they do.

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Illustrator:
Thomas Flintham

TIME TO READ!

Before reading, look at the cover: What do you recognize in the picture? What is "force"?

While reading, follow along: As you read, try some of the experiments. Talk about them afterward. What happened? What did you learn?

After reading, ask questions:
This book is best read in sections, not all at once. After each section, talk about what ideas from that section you see in the world around you.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

BRAND NEW BAG

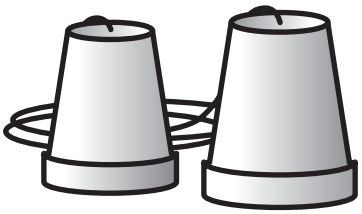
Materials: medium zip-up baggie, water, wooden skewers

Fill the baggie with water and seal it. Let your child poke a skewer through it, from one side to the other, avoiding the part of the bag filled with air. Does the bag leak? Why not? Let your child try again. What happens when you poke a skewer through the air-filled part of the bag? What happens when you take one of the skewers out? (Warning: better try the second half of this experiment over a sink!)

PUSH AND PULL POLL

On a sheet of paper, write the headings PUSH, PULL, and BOTH. Take a walk around the block. What items do you see that people in your neighborhood push? Pull? Both? Which one is the most common? Why? Is it easier to push something or pull something?

WIRELESS PHONE



Materials: paper cups, long string, 2 paper clips, pin

Discover how sound waves travel with this oldie but goodie. Punch a hole in the bottom of each cup. Tie a paper clip to each end of string. Insert the paper clips through the holes and pull the string taut so each paper clip is flat against the inside bottom of the cup. Take turns talking into and listening into the cups like a phone. Can you hear each other?

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit **www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines** to learn about simple and compound machines around the house.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS ABOUT PHYSICS

Can You Feel the Force?, Richard Hammond (2010),
Physics: Why Matter Matters! Dan Green and Simon Basher (2010),
Issac Newton and Physics for Kids, Kerrie Logan Hollihan (2009).