



# Integrating PhET with Undergraduate Physics

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## Introductory Physics Activities

### Mechanics

#### Unit 1: **Introduction to Motion**

Activity: Moving Man

Game: Estimation

#### Unit 2: **More on motion**

Activity: Vector Addition

Activity: Projectile Motion

#### Unit 3: **Forces and the Laws of Motion**

Activities: Forces in 1 Dimension

1 Predicting speed and directions changes

2 Relating graphs and free body diagrams

Activities: The Ramp

1 Using Free Body Diagrams

2 Quantitative Activity

Activity: Maze Game

1 Using Vector Representations to Move through a Maze

Activity: Curve Fitting: How well does the curve describe the data?

Demo: Friction

#### Unit 4: **Work, Energy, Momentum and Collisions**

Activities: Masses & Springs:

1 Homework activity

2 Conservation of Energy

Activities: Energy Skate Park

1 Intro to Conservation of Mechanical Energy \*

2 Relating Graphs, Position and Speed (no time graphs)\*

3 Calculating Speed and Height (no time graphs) \*

4 Calculations with Conservation of Mechanical Energy Using Time Graphs

#### Unit 5: **Circular Motion**

Activity: Ladybug Revolution

Activity: Maze Game

2 Vector Controls for Circular Motion

### Electricity & Magnetism

#### Unit 1: **Heat and Thermodynamics**

Demo: Friction

Activity: Microwaves and Gas Properties for understanding KMT

Activity: States of Matter

Activity: The Greenhouse Effect

#### Unit 2: **Waves: Introduction to light and sound**

Activity: Waves on a String

Activity: Sound

Activities: Fourier: Making Waves

1 Wave Representation

2 Superposition of Waves

Activity: Geometric Optics

Games: Fourier has a game tab

#### Unit 3: **Electric and Magnetic Forces and Fields**

Activity: Introduction to Electric Fields: uses both Electric Field Hockey Charges and Fields

Activity: Faraday's Electromagnet Lab

1 Introduction to Magnets

Games: Electric Field Hockey

Demo: Balloons & Static Electricity and John Travoltage

#### Unit 4: **Current, Resistance, Circuits, and Circuit Elements**

Demo: Introduction to Electric Fields: Charges and Fields

Activity: Circuit Construction CCK and equipment set:

1 Some Properties of electric circuits using equipment and CCK

2 Series and Parallel Circuits using equipment and CCK

3 Combo Circuits using equipment and CCK

#### Unit 5: **Induction, Alternating Current, Modern Electronics**

Activity: Faraday's Electromagnet Lab

2 Induction

Demos: Conductivity, Semiconductors, Photoelectric effect

\* Scroll to *Teaching Ideas* section of individual simulation page to find activities designed specifically for that simulation. Or browse all the activities here: [http://phet.colorado.edu/teacher\\_ideas/browse.php](http://phet.colorado.edu/teacher_ideas/browse.php)

# Sample Use of PhET Simulations

<http://phet.colorado.edu>

## Physics of Everyday Life: 1<sup>st</sup> Semester

1. Motion
  - Moving Man**
  - Maze Game**
  - Force 1D**
  - Lunar Lander**
  - Projectile Motion**
2. Spring Scales
  - Masses and Springs**
3. Work and Energy
  - Energy Skate Park**
  - Friction**
  - The Ramp**
4. Water Distribution
5. Sound: Speakers and Violins
  - Gas Properties**
  - Sound**
  - Wave on a string**
6. Lightbulbs, the Sun, and EM Radiation
  - Blackbody Spectrum**
7. Greenhouse Effect
  - Greenhouse**
8. Static Electricity
  - Balloons and Static Electricity**
  - Electric Field Hockey**
  - Charges and Fields**
  - John Travoltage**
9. Flashlights, circuits, batteries, and power
  - Signal Circuit**
  - Circuit Construction Kit**
  - Battery Voltage**
  - Battery-Resistor Circuit**
  - Ohm's Law**
10. EM Wave Generation and Radio waves
  - Radio Waves and Electromagnetic Fields**
11. Microwaves
  - Microwaves**
12. Discharge Lamps and Fluorescent Lights
  - Discharge Lamps**

## Physics of Everyday Life: 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

13. Photocopiers and semiconductors
  - Conductivity**
  - Semiconductors**
14. Transformers and Power Distribution
  - Circuit Construction Kit**
  - Faraday's Lab**
15. Sound, Speakers, and Amplifiers
  - Gas Properties**
  - Sound**
  - Faraday's Lab**
  - Semiconductors**
16. Light Emitting Diodes
  - Semiconductors**
17. TV and light/color
  - Discharge lamps**
  - Blackbody Spectrum**
  - Color vision**
18. Sunlight & Vision
  - Color vision**
  - Blackbody Spectrum**
19. Lasers
  - Lasers**
20. Cameras
  - Geometric Optics**
21. Hot air balloons and buoyancy
  - Gas Properties**
  - Balloons and Buoyancy**
22. Nuclear Weapons and Power
  - Nuclear Physics**
23. Medical Imaging (Ultrasound and MRI)
  - MRI**
24. Cosmology

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## Modern Physics for Engineers

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review of EM Waves<br/><b>Radio Waves and Electromagnetic Fields</b></li><li>2. Photoelectric Effect:<br/><b>Photoelectric Effect</b></li><li>3. Probability and Randomness and Wave particle duality<br/><b>Quantum Wave Interference</b></li><li>4. Rutherford Scattering<br/><b>Rutherford Scattering</b></li><li>5. Atomic Spectra and Discharge Lamps<br/><b>Discharge Lamps</b></li><li>6. Lasers<br/><b>Lasers</b></li><li>7. Balmer Series</li><li>8. Bohr and deBroglie Models of the atom<br/><b>The Hydrogen Atom</b></li><li>9. Double slit and Davisson Germer experiment<br/><b>Quantum Wave Interference, Davisson Germer: Electron Diffraction</b></li><li>10. Wave functions and probability</li><li>11. Wave packets and uncertainty principle<br/><b>Quantum Wave Interference, Quantum Tunneling, Fourier: Making Waves</b></li><li>12. Wave equations and Differential equations</li><li>13. Schrodinger equation for free particle<br/><b>Quantum Tunneling</b></li><li>14. Potential Energy</li><li>15. Infinite and Finite Square Wells<br/><b>Quantum Bound States</b></li><li>16. Quantum Tunneling, Alpha decay and other applications of Tunneling<br/><b>Quantum Tunneling</b></li><li>17. Reflection and Transmission<br/><b>Quantum Tunneling</b></li><li>18. Superposition, measurement, and expectation values<br/><b>Quantum Bound States</b></li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>19. Hydrogen atom<br/><b>The Hydrogen Atom, Rutherford Scattering</b></li><li>20. Multielectron atoms</li><li>21. Molecular bonding and solids<br/><b>Quantum Bound States/Double Wells and Covalent Bonds/Band Structure</b></li><li>22. Conductivity<br/><b>Conductivity</b></li><li>23. Diodes and LEDs<br/><b>Semiconductors</b></li><li>24. CCDs</li><li>25. Lasers Cooling and BEC<br/><b>Physics 2000</b><br/><b>(<a href="http://www.colorado.edu/physics/2000/">http://www.colorado.edu/physics/2000/</a>)</b></li><li>26. Spin and MRI<br/><b>Stern Gerlach Experiment, Simplified MRI</b></li><li>27. EPR paradox</li></ol> |
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