### **The Helium Balloon**

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**Question:** *You’re in a car with a helium balloon on a string that is tied to the floor. The windows are closed. What happens to the balloon when you step on the accelerator, and what happens when you apply sudden brakes?*

**Answer:** *When the car accelerates, the air is pushed backwards, just as your body is. This sends a lighter-than-air balloon forward. Whenthecarbrakessuddenly, the air piles up in front of the windshield. This sends the balloon backwards.*