Please mute your microphones. You may keep your video on if you wish. We will begin shortly.

Thank you.

## Introduction!



# Pendulum Physics

## Materials

- String
- Tape
- 2-3 different weights/small objects (e.g. a key and a ball)
- Ruler/measuring tape
- Stopwatch/timer





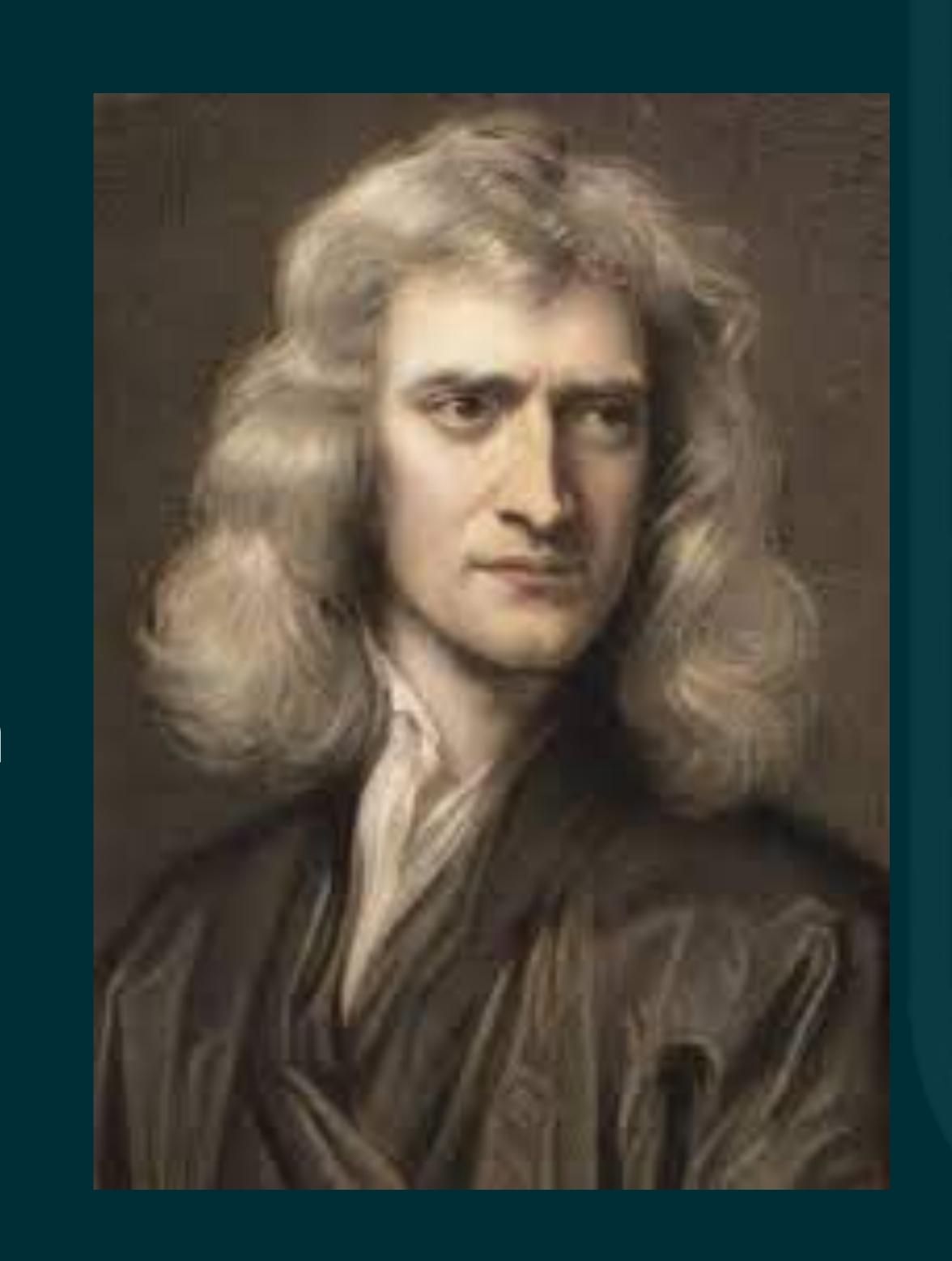
#### Let's Think:

What is a force?

What is an important example of a force in nature?

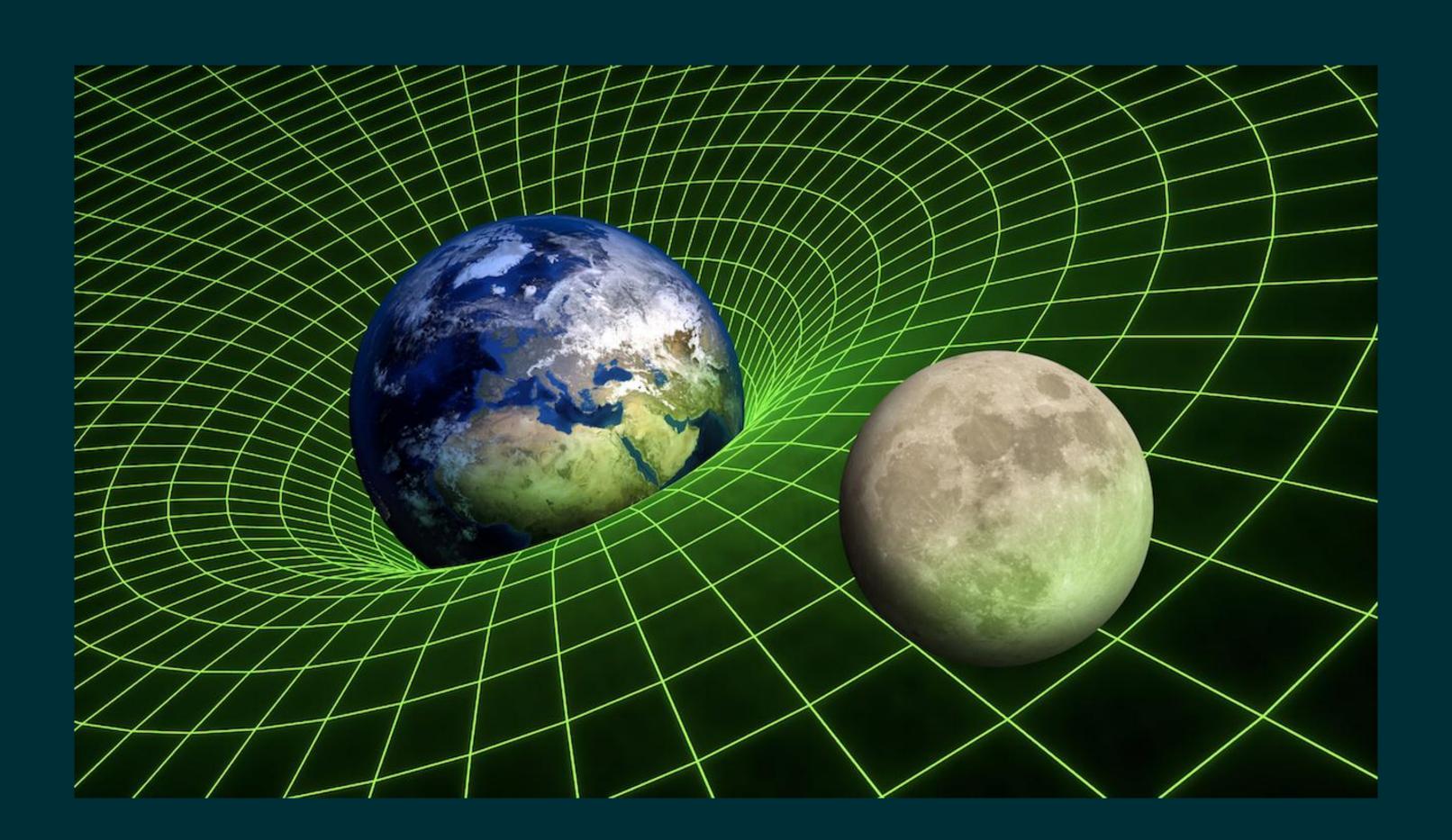
## Isaac Newton

- Born in the **17th century**, Newton developed a significant interest in the reasons why our world is how it is.
- He created the laws of gravity and motion which have heavily influenced modern scientific knowledge.



## Gravity

- The universal law of attraction
- The reason why the Moon orbits the Earth, why we don't float off into space, and why our Solar System is together
- Everything with mass exerts a gravitational force on everything else with mass; some factors make this force stronger



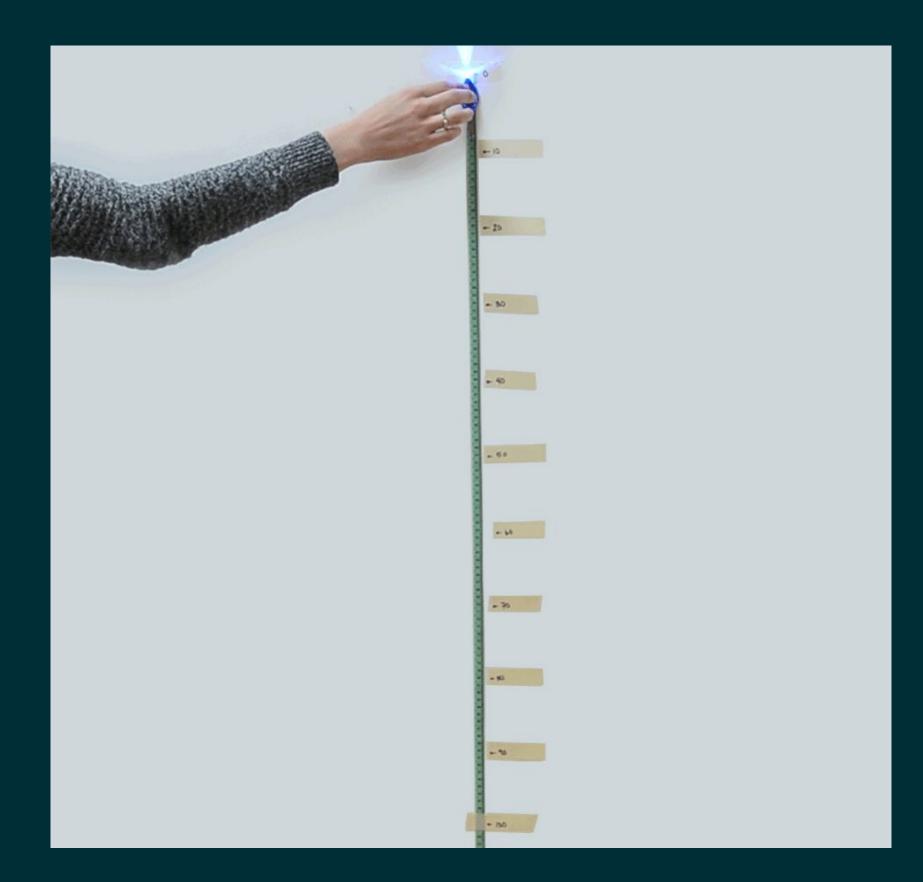


#### Let's Think:

If someone were to drop a basketball on your head, would it hurt more if they dropped it from a foot above, or from 20 feet above? Why?

## Acceleration Due to Gravity

- On our planet, the Earth has the largest mass, and so we are attracted to it the most.
- Anytime that a force is exerted on a person or object (and it isn't canceled out by other forces), it causes the object to accelerate.
- All falling objects accelerate downward at 9.8 m/s² (g).



## Inertia

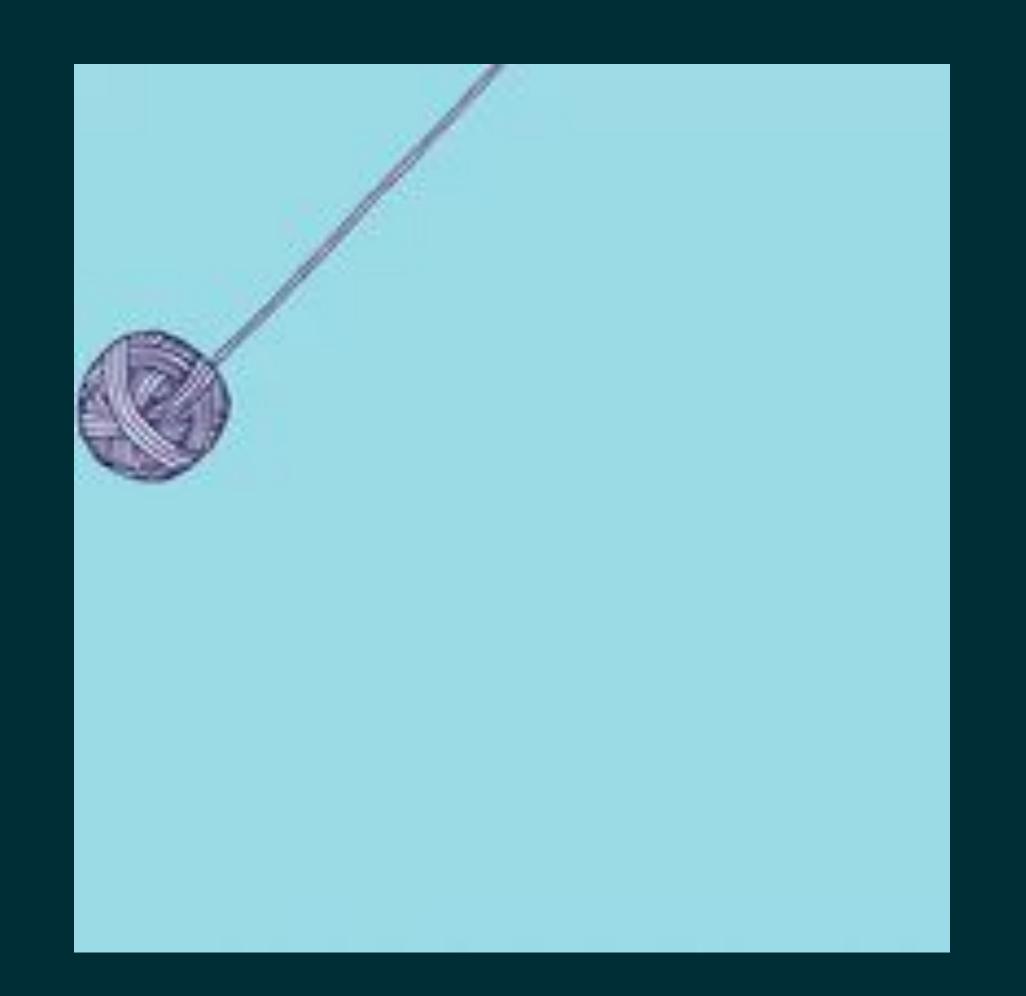
- It might seem weird that all objects accelerate at the same rate of 9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>. Wouldn't you expect a heavier object to fall faster?
- However, all objects have a property called inertia, which is a resistance to acceleration. Objects with more mass have more inertia.

## Let's Think:

Have you ever been on a swing? How does it work?

## Pendulum

- Any weight that is hung from a fixed area, that is allowed to freely move and oscillate (swing back and forth).
- Can you think of any examples of a pendulum that you may have seen before?







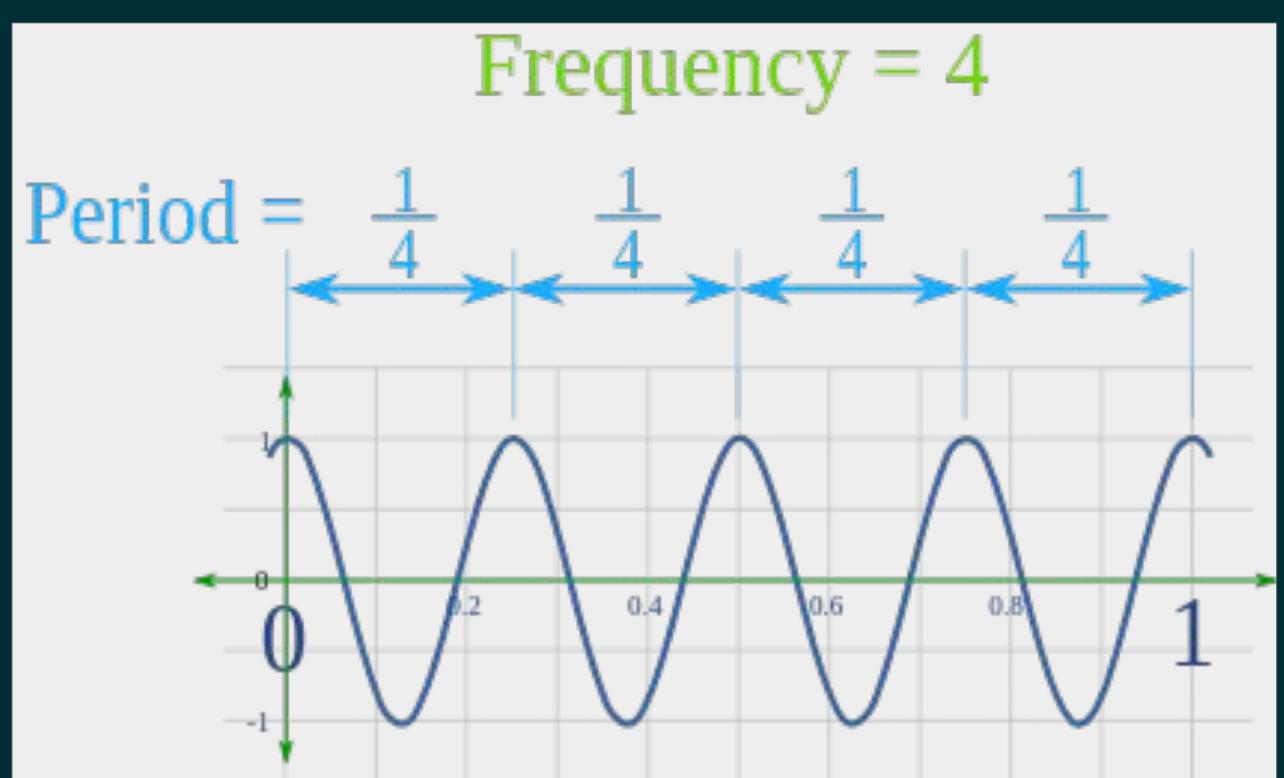


## Period/Frequency

- An object that oscillates has two very important features.
- Period (T) is the time, in seconds, that it takes for the object to go through one full cycle and return to the same position.
- Frequency (f) is the number of full cycles completed per second,
   measured in Hertz (Hz).

$$T = \frac{1}{f}$$

$$f = \frac{1}{T}$$



# Questions?

## Materials

- String
- Tape
- 2-3 different weights/small objects (e.g. a key and a ball)
- Ruler/measuring tape
- Stopwatch/timer



## Procedure

- 1. Take a short length of string and tie one end of it to your object.
- 2. Tape the other end of the string to a surface (like a table) so that the string hangs down. Use as much tape as is needed to fully support the weight.
- 3. Get your stopwatch ready. Gently pull the string to one side, and then release it, starting your stopwatch at the same time as you release.
- 4. Pause the timer and catch the string when it returns to its original position **for the third time**. Divide the time by three and write it down. What you have written down is the period.

## Procedure

- 1. Take a longer length of string and tie one end of it to your object.
- 2. Tape the other end of the string to a surface (like a table) so that the string hangs down. Use as much tape as is needed to fully support the weight.
- 3. Get your stopwatch ready. Gently pull the string to one side, and then release it, starting your stopwatch at the same time as you release.
- 4. Pause the timer and catch the string when it returns to its original position, and write down the time.
- 5. Pause the timer and catch the string when it returns to its original position **for the third time**. Divide the time by three and write it down.

### Procedure

- 1. Use string with a similar length, but tie it to a different object. Consider whether this is a heavier or lighter object than the first one.
- 2. Tape the other end of the string to a surface (like a table) so that the string hangs down. Use as much tape as is needed to fully support the weight.
- 3. Get your stopwatch ready. Gently pull the string to one side, and then release it, starting your stopwatch at the same time as you release.
- 4. Pause the timer and catch the string when it returns to its original position, and write down the time.
- 5. Pause the timer and catch the string when it returns to its original position **for the third time**. Divide the time by three and write it down.

## What do you see?

# What was different each time?

## Reflection Questions

1. Why do you think we let the string oscillate 3 times?

2. What do you think is the reason why when we put more weight on the pendulum, the time didn't change?

3. What might be some real-world applications of pendulums?

#### See you all next week!

Visit our website, futureforyoungscientists.org.

If you have any photos from this week, please share these with us by email

(<u>futureforyoungscientists@gmail.com</u>) or Facebook, as we would like to be able to share everyone's experience.