

## Unit #9 Gravity & Circular Motion

Universal Law of Gravitation, Gravity, Circular motion, planetary motion & Orbits

**Big Idea:** Gravity acts on everything in the universe.

### **Essential Questions:**

- How do gravitational forces add together?
- What is the defining characteristic of a black hole?
- What is required to move an object along a circular path?
- What are the defining characteristics of the centripetal force?
- What is the law of gravity?
- How can an object moving at constant speed be accelerating?
- How can Newton's Law of Universal Gravitation be used to investigate satellite motion?
- How can the orbits of planets be described?
- How is a planet's motion related to the area it sweeps out?
- How is the period of a planet related to its mass and its distance from the sun?

### **Vocabulary:**

gravity	superposition	centripetal acceleration
centripetal force	spring tides	neap tides
Universal Law of Gravitation		tangential velocity

### **Students who demonstrate understanding can:**

**HS-PS3-1** Create a computational model to calculate the change in the energy of one component in a system when the change in energy of the other component(s) and energy flows in and out of the system are known. [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on explaining the meaning of mathematical expressions used in the model.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to basic algebraic expressions or computations; to systems of two or three components; and to thermal energy, kinetic energy, and/or the energies in gravitational, magnetic, or electric fields.]

**HS-PS3-3.** Design, build, and refine a device that works within given constraints to convert one form of energy into another form of energy.\* [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on both qualitative and quantitative evaluations of devices. Examples of devices could include Rube Goldberg devices, wind turbines, solar cells, solar ovens, and generators. Examples of constraints could include use of renewable energy forms and efficiency.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment for quantitative evaluations is limited to total output for a given input. Assessment is limited to

<b>HS-PS2-1.</b>	<i>devices constructed with materials provided to students.]</i>
<b>HS-PS2-2</b>	<p><b>Analyze data to support the claim that Newton’s second law of motion describes the mathematical relationship among the net force on a macroscopic object, its mass, and its acceleration.</b>[Clarification Statement: Examples of data could include tables or graphs of position or velocity as a function of time for objects subject to a net unbalanced force, such as a falling object, an object rolling down a ramp, or a moving object being pulled by a constant force.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to one-dimensional motion and to macroscopic objects moving at non-relativistic speeds.]</p> <p><b>Use mathematical representations to support the claim that the total momentum of a system of objects is conserved when there is no net force on the system.</b>[Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on the quantitative conservation of momentum in interactions and the qualitative meaning of this principle.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to systems of two macroscopic bodies moving in one dimension.]</p>
<b>HS-PS2-4</b>	<p><b>Use mathematical representations of Newton’s Law of Gravitation and Coulomb’s Law to describe and predict the gravitational and electrostatic forces between objects.</b> [Clarification Statement: Emphasis is on both quantitative and conceptual descriptions of gravitational and electric fields.] [Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to systems with two objects.]</p>

The performance expectations above were developed using the following elements from the NRC document *A Framework for K-12 Science Education*:

Science and Engineering Practices	Disciplinary Core Ideas	Crosscutting Concepts
<p><b>Developing and Using Models</b> Modeling in 9–12 builds on K–8 and progresses to using, synthesizing, and developing models to predict and show relationships among variables between systems and their components in the natural and designed worlds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and use a model based on evidence to illustrate the relationships between systems or between components of a system. (HS-PS3-2)</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning and Carrying Out Investigations</b> Planning and carrying out investigations to answer questions or test solutions to problems in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to include investigations that provide evidence for and test conceptual, mathematical, physical, and empirical models.</p> <p><b>Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking</b> Mathematical and computational thinking at the 9–12 level builds on K–8 and progresses to using algebraic thinking and analysis, a range of linear</p>	<p><b>PS3.A: Definitions of Energy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy is a quantitative property of a system that depends on the motion and interactions of matter and radiation within that system. That there is a single quantity called energy is due to the fact that a system’s total energy is conserved, even as, within the system, energy is continually transferred from one object to another and between its various possible forms. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2)</li> <li>At the macroscopic scale, energy manifests itself in multiple ways, such as in motion, sound, light, and thermal energy. (HS-PS3-2) (HS-PS3-3)</li> </ul> <p><b>PS3.B: Conservation of Energy and Energy Transfer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conservation of energy means that the total change of energy in any system is always equal to the total energy</li> </ul>	<p><b>Energy and Matter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes of energy and matter in a system can be described in terms of energy and matter flows into, out of, and within that system. (HS-PS3-3)</li> </ul> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Connections to Engineering, Technology, and Applications of Science</b> <b>Influence of Science, Engineering and Technology on Society and the Natural World</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modern civilization depends on major technological systems. Engineers continuously modify these technological systems by applying scientific knowledge and engineering design practices to increase benefits while decreasing costs and risks. (HS-PS3-3)</li> </ul> <p>-----</p>

and nonlinear functions including trigonometric functions, exponentials and logarithms, and computational tools for statistical analysis to analyze, represent, and model data. Simple computational simulations are created and used based on mathematical models of basic assumptions.

- Create a computational model or simulation of a phenomenon, designed device, process, or system. (HS-PS3-1)

### **Constructing Explanations and Designing Solutions**

Constructing explanations and designing solutions in 9–12 builds on K–8 experiences and progresses to explanations and designs that are supported by multiple and independent student-generated sources of evidence consistent with scientific ideas, principles, and theories.

- Design, evaluate, and/or refine a solution to a complex real-world problem, based on scientific knowledge, student-generated sources of evidence, prioritized criteria, and tradeoff considerations. (HS-PS3-3)

transferred into or out of the system. (HS-PS3-1)

- Energy cannot be created or destroyed, but it can be transported from one place to another and transferred between systems. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-4)
- Mathematical expressions, which quantify how the stored energy in a system depends on its configuration (e.g. relative positions of charged particles, compression of a spring) and how kinetic energy depends on mass and speed, allow the concept of conservation of energy to be used to predict and describe system behavior. (HS-PS3-1)
- The availability of energy limits what can occur in any system. (HS-PS3-1)
- Uncontrolled systems always evolve toward more stable states—that is, toward more uniform energy distribution (e.g., water flows downhill, objects hotter than their surrounding environment cool down). (HS-PS3-4)

#### **PS2.A: Forces and Motion**

- Newton's second law accurately predicts changes in the motion of macroscopic objects. (HS-PS2-1)
- Momentum is defined for a particular frame of reference; it is the mass times the velocity of the object. (HS-PS2-2)
- If a system interacts with objects outside itself, the total momentum of the system can change; however, any such change is balanced by changes in the momentum of objects outside the system. (HS-PS2-2)

#### **PS3.D: Energy in Chemical Processes**

- Although energy cannot be destroyed, it can be converted to less useful forms—for example, to thermal energy in the surrounding environment. (HS-PS3-3)

#### **PS2.B: Types of Interactions**

### **Connections to Nature of Science Scientific Knowledge Assumes an Order and Consistency in Natural Systems**

Science assumes the universe is a vast single system in which basic laws are consistent. (HS-PS3-1) **Systems and System Models**

- When investigating or describing a system, the boundaries and initial conditions of the system need to be defined. (HS-PS2-2)

#### **Patterns**

- Different patterns may be observed at each of the scales at which a system is studied and can provide evidence for causality in explanations of phenomena. (HS-PS2-4)

- Newton's law of universal gravitation and Coulomb's law provide the mathematical models to describe and predict the effects of gravitational and electrostatic forces between distant objects. (HS-PS2-4)

- 

**ETS1.A: Defining and Delimiting an Engineering Problem**

- Criteria and constraints also include satisfying any requirements set by society, such as taking issues of risk mitigation into account, and they should be quantified to the extent possible and stated in such a way that one can tell if a given design meets them. (*secondary to HS-PS3-3*)

*Connections to other DCIs in this grade-band:*

**HS.PS1.A** (HS-PS3-2); **HS.PS1.B** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2); **HS.PS2.B** (HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-5); **HS.LS2.B** (HS-PS3-1); **HS.ESS1.A** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-4) ; **HS.ESS2.A** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-4); **HS.ESS2.D** (HS-PS3-4); **HS.ESS3.A** (HS-PS3-3)

*Articulation of DCIs across grade-bands:*

**MS.PS1.A** (HS-PS3-2); **MS.PS2.B** (HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-5); **MS.PS3.A** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-3); **MS.PS3.B** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-3),(HS-PS3-4); **MS.PS3.C** (HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-5); **MS.ESS2.A** (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-3)

*Common Core State Standards Connections:*

*ELA/Literacy -*

- RST.11-12.1** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts, attending to important distinctions the author makes and to any gaps or inconsistencies in the account. (*HS-PS3-4*)
- WHST.9-12.7** Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. (*HS-PS3-3*),(HS-PS3-4),(HS-PS3-5)
- WHST.11-12.8** Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. (HS-PS3-4),(HS-PS3-5)
- WHST.9-12.9** Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. (*HS-PS3-4*),(HS-PS3-5)
- SL.11-12.5** Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest. (*HS-PS3-1*),(HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-5)

*Mathematics -*

- MP.2** Reason abstractly and quantitatively. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-3),(HS-PS3-4),(HS-PS3-5)
- MP.4** Model with mathematics. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-2),(HS-PS3-3),(HS-PS3-4),(HS-PS3-5)

<b>HSN.Q.A.1</b>	Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-3)
<b>HSN.Q.A.2</b>	Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-3)
<b>HSN.Q.A.3</b>	Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities. (HS-PS3-1),(HS-PS3-3)