## What are forces?

I They can cause things to move, change direction and change shape.
2 They are measured in Newtons (N), using a newtonmeter.
3 Forces are either contact or non-contact forces.


## Balanced and unbalanced forces

| I | Balanced | Forces acting on an object are the <br> same size but in opposite directions. <br> The object is stationary are moving <br> at a constant speed. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 2 | Unbalanced | When the two forces that are acting <br> in opposite directions on an object <br> are not the same size. The object is <br> accelerating or decelerating. |
| 5 N |  |  |

3 To determine the resultant force subtract forces if they act in opposite directions. Add them if they act in the same direction.

## Interaction pairs

| I | Forces always act in pairs called interaction pairs. |
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| 2 | The forces in interaction pairs are always the same <br> size as one another and act in opposite directions. |
| 3 | Example: When you walk <br> you push down on the <br> ground. The ground <br> pushes you back with an <br> equal force in the opposite <br> direction. |


| Key Vocabulary |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| I | Contact force | A force that acts when two <br> objects are physically touching. |
| 2 | Non-contact <br> force | A force that acts when two <br> objects are not touching. |
| 3 | Newton | The unit used to measure force. |
| 4 | Gravity | A non-contact force that acts <br> between two objects. |
| 5 | Weight | The downward force caused by <br> gravity acting on an object's mass. |
| 6 | Mass | The amount of matter in an <br> object. |
| 7 | Resultant <br> force | The overall force acting on an <br> object. |
| 8 | Equilibrium | When the resultant force on an <br> object is zero. |
| 9 | Speed | A measure of how quickly an <br> object is moving. |
| 10 | Stationary | An object that is not moving. |
| 11 | Accelerate | When an object is getting faster. |
| 12 | Decelerate | When an object is getting slower. |
|  |  |  |
| 6 |  |  |

## Gravity

| I | Gravity is a non-contact force that pulls objects <br> together. |
| :---: | :--- |
| 2 | The size of the gravitational attraction between two <br> objects depends on their mass and separation. |
| 3 | Gravitational field strength varies from planet to <br> planet so your mass is always the same but your <br> weight varies from planet to planet. |

