Forces and Motion

What is a force?

A **force** is a **push** or a **pull** between two objects.

Pushes move objects away from you.



Pulls move objects towards you.



Using arrows to show forces

We can use arrows to show the forces acting on an object.

- The **length** of the arrow can be changed The **direction** of the force is to show **bigger** and **smaller** forces:
 - shown by the arrowhead:





What can forces do?

A force can:

- Change the **speed** of an object (how fast/slow it moves).
- Change the **direction** an object is moving in.
- Change the **shape** of an object.

Balanced and unbalanced

- Balanced forces are when opposing (opposite) forces are the same size.
- **Unbalanced forces** are when opposing (opposite) forces are different sizes.

Forces and motion

- Balanced forces do not cause a change in motion (speed or direction) or shape of an object. When forces are balanced:
 - A stationary (still) object will stay still.
 - A moving object will keep moving at a steady speed.
- Unbalanced forces do cause a change in motion or shape of an object. When forces are unbalanced:
 - A stationary object will start moving in the direction of the biggest force.
 - A moving object will change its speed (speed up or slow down)...

Friction

motion

Friction is a force that acts when two surfaces slide over each other.

It acts to slow the object down.

friction

The rougher the surfaces, the greater the force of friction.

