

## How Things Move

**Cross-Curricular Focus: Physical Science**



We can watch things around us move. When something is in **motion**, it **changes** its position. Objects can move from one place to another. They can move in many directions. If you roll a ball, it might move in a straight line, or it might move in a curve. A swing can move back and forth. A light switch can move up and down. Fans have blades that move in a circle.

If you want to know if something is moving, you can compare it to other things that are around it that are not moving. If the things behind the object are changing, the object is probably moving. If they are not changing, the object is probably not moving.

You can measure the motion of an object by measuring the distance between where it was when it started to move, and where it was when it stopped moving. Distance can be measured in inches, feet, yards, or miles in the customary system of measurement. It can be measured in millimeters, centimeters, meters, and kilometers in the metric system of measurement.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) When something is in motion, what does it change?

\_\_\_\_\_

2) How does a swing move?

\_\_\_\_\_

3) How does a light switch move?

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4) How can you test if something is moving or not?

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\_\_\_\_\_

5) What is one unit of measurement you could use to measure distance?

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