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The Physics of Angry Birds

Introduction: Names, Engineering Students/Majors (Josh)

- Question: What is engineering?
- Scientists that want to build/make things, Creative and innovative technology, Interact with things on a daily basis

(Show Angry Birds Video)

Question: Who has played Angry Birds before?

Question: What physics concepts can you see at work in Angry Birds?

The Physics of Angry Birds: (Jake)

- Projectile Motion
- Collisions and Momentum
- Kinetic and Potential Energy
- Spring/Elastic Physics
- Explosive Physics

Newton's Laws (Josh) (Jake writes important vocab and definitions)

- 1st Law: Inertia – An object at rest will stay at rest, and an object in motion will stay in motion unless acted on by a force.
 - Question: Which block will be move the easiest
 - Block demonstration - Moving
- 2nd Law: Force and Acceleration
 - Question: How do we make the object move?
 - Definition of acceleration, leading to definition of force
 - Force needs “effort”
- 3rd Law: Equal and Opposite Reactions
 - Block demonstration – Pushing on block
 - i. No Acceleration
 - ii. Question: Why?

Physics Equations (Jake)

- Displacement: Distance from starting point (x)
- Velocity: Speed or movement
 - Velocity = Displacement / Time ($v = x/t$)
 - Units: $m/s = m / s$
- Acceleration: Adding or subtracting speed
 - Acceleration = Velocity / Time ($a = v/t$)
 - Units: $m/s^2 = (m/s) / s$

- Force: Push
 - Force = Mass $\times$ Acceleration ($F = ma$)
 - Units: $N = kg \times m/s^2$
- Momentum: Quantity of mass and velocity
 - Momentum = Mass $\times$ Velocity ($p = mv$)
 - Units: $kg \times m/s$
- Kinetic Energy: Movement energy
- Kinetic Energy = $1/2 \times \text{Mass} \times \text{Velocity}^2$ ($E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$)
 - Units: Joules (J)
- Potential Energy: Stored Energy
- Potential Energy = Mass $\times$ Acceleration of Gravity $\times$ Height ($E_p = mgh$)
 - Units: Joules(J)
 - Draw rock & cliff diagram to compare E_k and E_p

Physics of Catapult: (Josh)

- Moments
 - Rotational Motion: Force $\rightarrow$ Moments
 - Moments = Force $\times$ Arm
 - Point of Rotation
 - Example: Door
- Energy
 - Question: After we load the spoon, where does the launch force come from?
 - Potential Energy: Storage of force
 - Relate to Slingshot (Angry Birds)
 - Spring Potential Energy = $\frac{1}{2} \times \text{Spring Constant} \times \text{Displacement}$ ($E = \frac{1}{2} kx^2$)
 - Units: Joules(J)
 - Question: Where does the energy go after the launch?
 - Energy transfer from potential to kinetic
 - Relate to Displacement (Angry Birds)
 - Relate to Impact Force
- Increasing Distance
 - Question: How can we increase the projectile displacement?
 - Give more energy
 - Increase lever displacement
 - Increase the spring constant
 - Increase arm length
 - Other Types of Catapults
 - Four Bar Linkage
 - Mechanical Advantage = Force Out / Force In

Physics of Projectiles: (Jake)

- To break through the fortress, the birds must have a high momentum
- A high momentum can be achieved by increasing mass, velocity, or both
- Angry Birds Projectiles
 - (Box momentum equation)
 - Red Bird: $p = mv$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Red Bird does not change speed or mass, and therefore has a low momentum
 - The Red Bird is the “control” bird (We compare other birds to this one)
 - Yellow Bird: $p(\uparrow) = mv(\uparrow)$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Yellow Bird increases its speed, and therefore increases its momentum
 - Dark Red Bird: $p(\uparrow) = m(\uparrow)v$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Dark Red Bird has a greater mass, and therefore increases its momentum
 - Orange Bird: $p(\uparrow) = m(\uparrow)v$ (optional)
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Orange Bird rapidly increases its mass, and therefore suddenly increases momentum
 - Blue Bird: $p(\uparrow) = m(\uparrow)v$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Blue Bird increases its mass and therefore increases its momentum
 - Blue Bird also creates a force over a larger area
 - (Diagram of force over larger area on a block)
 - Black Bird: $p(\uparrow) = mv(\uparrow)$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The Black Bird creates an explosion
 - The explosive force causes an increase in momentum
 - (Draw Explosion Diagram)
 - White Bird: $p(\uparrow) = mv(\uparrow)$
 - Question: What characteristics of this bird give it an increase in momentum?
 - The White Bird also creates an explosion
 - The explosive force causes an increase in momentum
 - (Draw White Bird/Bomb diagram)
 - Not all birds have abilities that deal with momentum
 - Green and Pink birds

Question: Any more questions from the audience?

Distance Question/Activity (Josh)

Catapult Activity (Both)

