Standards

This unit was developed to meet the following standards.

California Academic Content Standards for Science, Grades 9–12

Physics

Motion and Forces

- 1. Newton's laws predict the motion of most objects. As a basis for understanding this concept:
 - a. Students know how to solve problems that involve constant speed and average speed.
 - Students know that when forces are balanced, no acceleration occurs; thus, an object continues to move at a constant speed or stays at rest (Newton's first law).
 - c. Students know how to apply the law F = ma to solve one-dimensional motion problems that involve constant forces (Newton's second law).
 - d. Students know that when one object exerts a force on a second object, the second object always exerts a force of equal magnitude and in the opposite direction (Newton's third law).
 - e. Students know the relationship between the universal law of gravitation and the effect of gravity on an object at the surface of Earth.
 - f. Students know applying a force to an object perpendicular to the direction of its motion causes the object to change direction but not speed (e.g., Earth's gravitational force causes a satellite in a circular orbit to change direction but not speed).
 - g. Students know circular motion requires the application of a constant force directed toward the center of the circle.
 - h. Students know how to solve problems involving the forces between two electric charges at a distance (Coulomb's law) or the forces between two masses at a distance (universal gravitation).

Conservation of Energy and Momentum

- 2. The laws of conservation of energy and momentum provide a way to predict and describe the movement of objects. As a basis for understanding this concept:
 - a. Students know how to calculate kinetic energy by using the formula $E = (1/2)mv^2$.
 - b. Students know how to calculate changes in gravitational potential energy near Earth by using the formula (change in potential energy) = mgh (h is the change in the elevation).
 - c. Students know how to solve problems involving conservation of energy in simple systems, such as falling objects.

- d. Students know how to calculate momentum as the product *mv*.
- e. Students know momentum is a separately conserved quantity different from energy.
- f. Students know an unbalanced force on an object produces a change in its momentum.
- g. Students know how to solve problems involving elastic and inelastic collisions in one dimension by using the principles of conservation of momentum and energy.

Investigation and Experimentation

- 1. Scientific progress is made by asking meaningful questions and conducting careful investigations. As a basis for understanding this concept and addressing the content in the four other strands, students should develop their own questions and perform investigations. Students will:
 - c. Identify possible reasons for inconsistent results, such as sources of error or uncontrolled conditions.
 - d. Formulate explanations by using logic and evidence.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) AME Industry Sector Foundation Standards

1.2 Science

Specific applications of Investigation and Experimentation standards (Grades 9–12):

(1.c) Identify possible reasons for inconsistent results, such as sources of error or uncontrolled conditions.

(1.d) Formulate explanations by using logic and evidence.

CTE AME Industry Sector Media and Design Arts Pathway Standards

A.1.0 Visual and performing arts (VPA) and English-language arts (ELA)

Students master appropriate visual and performing arts (VPA) and Englishlanguage arts (ELA) content standards in relation to visual, aural, written, and electronic media projects and products.

A1.7 ELA Written and Oral English Language Conventions

(1.1) Demonstrate control of grammar, diction, and paragraph and sentence structure and an understanding of English usage.(1.2) Produce legible work that shows accurate spelling and correct punctuation and capitalization.