

Momentum Inquiry activity

Purpose: Determine the momentum of different objects **after** rolling down a ramp.

Materials available: metersticks, ramp, stopwatch, various "rolling" objects, electronic balance (one for the entire class), masking tape, ?

What to do...

Gather 3-5 different "rolling" objects. Write down your predictions as to which will have more momentum (rank order).

Set-up a ramp in order to get each object moving. Determine the momentum of each object.

Were your predictions correct?

What factors did you notice affected the momentum?

Try to get one of the lesser momentum objects to have more momentum than the larger momentum objects. Explain what you do to accomplish this.

Write a short summary of what you learned about momentum.