Position, Direction, and Speed

Force and Motion Presentation #1

Position

 The position of an object is its location relative to another object (the reference point) for example, "above", "below", "beside", "behind", "ahead of" plus the distance from the other object.

• Ex- The runner from Fort Mill is 10 meters ahead of the runner from Nation Ford.

Position (continued)

- The distance (length) from the reference point changes when the object moves.
- Ex. Now the runner from Fort Mill is 15 meters ahead of the runner from Nation Ford.
- Basically, we use position to compare how close/far two objects are to/from each other.

You Try It

Turn to someone at your table. Tell them the position of an object in the room in relation to another object.

Ex. The flag is 2 feet above the bookcase.

Direction

 Direction of motion is the course or path that an object is moving and can be determined by reading a compass using the terms "north", "south", "east", or "west."

• Direction can also be described using the terms "right", or "left", "forward", or "toward" relative to another object, or "up" or "down" relative to Earth.

You try it!

Turn to someone at your table. Describe to them how to get to another point in the classroom using directional terms.

Speed

- A measure of how fast an object is moving.
- If a car is driving 60 miles per hour, that means it will drive 60 miles over the course of an hour.
- How far would that car drive in 2 hours?
- How far would that car drive in 1 ½ hours?

Formula for Speed

Speed= Distance/Time

Example

Speed= 8 miles/4 minutes

Divide 8 by 4.

Your answer is _____miles per minute.

You Try It!

Speed= 40 cm/ 10 sec

Divide 40 by 10.

The speed is ____ cm per sec.