





Potential and Kinetic Energy

#	TERM	DEFINITION
1	ENERGY	The ability to do work or cause change
2	KINETIC ENERGY	The energy of motion
3	POTENTIAL ENERGY	Stored energy
4	LAW OF CONSERVATION OF ENERGY	Energy is neither created nor destroyed, it only changes form

POTENTIAL ENERGY



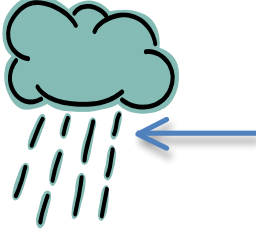
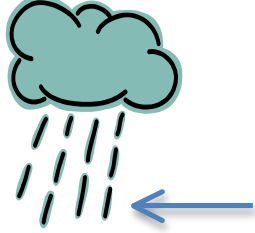
Since Potential energy is paused and not in motion, think of it like money in the bank. It's there when you are ready to spend it. One form of potential energy having to do with its position is called gravitational potential energy. The higher an object is above the Earth's surface, the more potential energy it has. As a rock falls off a cliff, more and more of its potential energy changes into kinetic energy.

Identify which of the two examples has more Potential energy and which has less Potential energy

MASS		DISTANCE FROM THE GROUND	
			
Potential Energy	Potential Energy	Potential Energy	Potential Energy
More	Less	Less	More

KINETIC ENERGY

The law of Conservation of Energy states that energy cannot be created or destroyed, but can only change form. Therefore, as potential energy decreases, it is not gone, but transformed into moving energy called kinetic energy. Think of the energy as money. If potential energy is four quarters, then kinetic is ten dimes. The coins may be different, but they still equal one dollar. If there is more of potential energy, then you can get more of kinetic energy out of it. Discuss the tire/marble lab and draw picture below.

MASS		DISTANCE FROM THE GROUND	
			
Kinetic Energy	Kinetic Energy	Kinetic Energy	Kinetic Energy
More	Less	Less	More

Circle the Potential Energy in each scenario, and draw two lines under the Kinetic Energy. Then make up two more and identify each as potential or kinetic in the same way.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The energy in a battery | <u>Using the battery to power a camera</u> |
| 2. <u>Exercising</u> | Eating food that your body stores |
| 3. <u>A car driving down the road</u> | Gasoline in the gas tank of a car |
| 4. <u>Shooting a bow and arrow</u> | An arrow stretched back ready to fly |
| 5. <u>Throwing a football to your friend</u> | A friend caught the ball that his friend threw |
| 6. A roller coaster at the top of its track | <u>The roller coaster moving down the track</u> |
| 7. <u>A rock rolling down a hill</u> | A rock at the bottom of the hill |
| 8. Resting/Sitting | <u>Running/Walking</u> |
| 9. | |
| 10. | |

Describe how energy changes from the time a player throws a basketball to the time it passes through a hoop.

When the ball is poised in the player's hands, it is potential energy. When he throws the ball, the potential energy turns into kinetic energy. As the ball loses its momentum to gravity and stops propelling forward, it pauses over the hoop and becomes gravitational potential energy for a moment. Then, as the ball begins to fall again, it becomes kinetic energy until, after bouncing a few times, stops and becomes potential energy again.