Anchoring Phenomenon
Objects do not move on their own.

Lesson Concept
Conduct an investigation to collect data about the effect of the strength of push on an object.

Investigative Phenomenon
Discs move different distances.

Standards
Refer to Appendix K.3 for NGSS, CCSS (ELA and Math), and California ELD Standards.
Driving Question
How can we change the distance a disc travels?

Storyline Link
In Lesson 2: Pullapalooza, students solved a soccer coach’s problem of moving soccer objects to the field. At the conclusion, students generated a list of questions they need a solution for to be able to make a motionless soccer ball score a goal.

This lesson answers student questions about how to push the ball harder or faster. This deepens their understanding of movement by describing the strength of a push. (DCI) The investigative phenomenon is “Discs move different distances.” The investigative phenomenon is observed in a video of shuffleboard. The investigation is a mini-shuffleboard game where the cause and effect of different-strength pushes result in what score you get. Students gather data about the push used and look for patterns to predict distances. (CCC) (SEP) Understanding that different pushes result in different distances traveled by a disc in shuffleboard deepens understanding of the anchoring phenomenon that motionless objects won’t move on their own.

This exploration leads to the next lesson, Lesson 4: Huff, Puff, and Move the Ball, an exploration of how the wind creates a push changing the speed and direction of an object.

Throughout the lesson, a flag (▶) denotes formative assessment opportunities where you may change instruction in response to students’ level of understanding and making sense of phenomena.

Time
115 minutes
Parts represent different sessions on different days for kindergarten.

Part I  45 minutes
  10 minutes  Engage
  25 minutes  Explore I
  10 minutes  Explain I

Part II  30 minutes
  20 minutes  Explore II
  10 minutes  Explain II

Part III  30 minutes
  20 minutes  Explore III
  10 minutes  Explain III

Part IV  10 minutes
  10 minutes  Elaborate/Evaluate

A project of CA NGSS K–8 Early Implementation Initiative.
K.3 Cruising Discs

Materials

Whole Class
- Shuffleboard video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBsj3HqYx9M)
- Two cones to mark the finish line (outside)
- Two balls (soccer or playground balls)

Per Group (Groups of 2)
- Cruising Disc Game Board (see Advance Preparation)
- Disc (a washer approximately 1 to 2 inches in diameter)

Individual
- Science science notebook
- Pencil
- K.3.H1: Sandy and Diego
- Clothespin, clip, or sticky note with each student’s name written on it

Teacher
- K.3.R1: Cruising Disc Game Board

Advance Preparation

1. See K.3.R1: Cruising Disc Game Board which shows an actual game board and model of what you will be drawing. Prepare a Cruising Disc Game Board for each group by drawing three lines of different lengths 4 inches apart on 12” by 18” construction paper. Label them 1, 2, and 3. Draw and label a start line where students will begin pushing the disc. (For Parts I–II)

2. On the opposite end of the game board, draw a small rectangle about 2 inches by 4 inches wide and write GOAL inside it. (for use in Part III)

3. Laminate the game boards if possible.

4. Review the shuffleboard video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XBsj3HqYx9M) and select a short clip of students playing shuffleboard.

4. Prepare materials for predicting (step 10) by:
   a. making three different signs with words large enough for the class to read:
      i. Greater
      ii. Same
      iii. Lesser
   b. each student’s name written on an individual clothespin or clip, or use small sticky notes

6. Prepare K.3.C1: Class Notebook as described in the Toolbox for this lesson. You might want to pre-make the table for recording the results of the student's predictions and results.
K.3 Cruising Discs

Procedure

Part I

Engage (10 minutes)

Observe effects of pushing shuffleboard discs towards a goal.

1. Display the Class Notebook with a list of questions from Lesson 2: Pullapalooza. Circle a question about the speed or distance a ball travels from a kick and identify this question as the one to figure out today.

2. Place a disc (washer) on the floor or table in front of the students. Have students observe the disc and ask, "What do you need to know about this disc to make it move?" Chart student responses on K.3.C1: Class Notebook; e.g. Where can we move the disc? How far can it move? Can I move it with something?

3. Ask students if they have played games where a stick moves an object or ball. Share some ideas.

4. Show the shuffleboard video and ask students to watch closely to see how the shuffleboard disc is moved in the game. Ask students to share some ideas of how the game is played.
   a. Show the shuffleboard video again and ask students to see if they can figure out how the students score points.
   b. Ask the students to think about this question: “What would you like to ask the students in the video about how to play shuffleboard?” Chart ideas on the K.3.C1: Class Notebook.
   c. Answer student questions about playing shuffleboard.

Teacher Note

You may want to pause the video a few times and ask the students questions about how the disc moved. "What did the boy use to move the disc? Did they push it or pull it? Did the disc move the same distance every time?"

Explore I (25 minutes)

Carry out an investigation to determine if different amounts of force cause a disc to move different distances.

5. We do not have a shuffleboard at our school, but we can play mini-shuffleboard to figure out some of the strategies the students in the video used. Show the students the Cruising Disc Game Board and point out the starting point for the disc. Explain that this a mini-shuffleboard game. The goal is to push the disc, using your finger, so that it stops exactly in Box 1 without touching the lines. Remind students of how the boy in the video moved the disc. They must release the disc in the start line.
6. Give students the disc and Cruising Disc Game Board and have them practice getting the disc into Box 1 for about 5 minutes.

7. Ask students to leave their materials at their tables and gather at the meeting place. Ask, “What did you notice about the movement of the disc? How did you cause the disc to move and stop in Box 1? When it did not go into Box 1, how did you change your push?” Record results of how to get the disc to Box 1 on a new page of the K.3.C1: Class Notebook.

8. Explain to them that they will get only one chance to push the disc into Box 2. Use this sentence frame:

   In order to get the disc to Box 2, I predict that I will _____.

9. Have students think-pair-share their predictions for how to push in order to reach Box 2.

10. Show the signs you prepared with the three words greater, lesser, and same on them. Students will attach their name clothespin on the paper that represents their prediction to get the disc to Box 2.

11. Count the number of responses in each category. Record the predictions for Box 2 on a page of the K.3.C1: Class Notebook, leaving a space for both prediction and results for Box 2.

12. Students return to their game boards and wait for you to say, “Go.” Each partner will get just one chance to get the disc into Box 2. Record the results for Box 2 on a page of the K.3.C1: Class Notebook next to the predictions.
K.3.7
K.3 Cruising Discs

Explain I (10 minutes)

*Compare data from observations that show the effect of different strength of pushes to the distance the disc traveled.*

13. Return to the meeting place and ask students to review the predictions and results for Box 2 on the K.3.C1: Class Notebook. Ask, “Was your prediction supported? How do you know? What is on the chart that would make you change your prediction if we did the test one more time?” Discuss with a partner. Share a few ideas.

**TEACHER NOTE**

Use the word *supported* because that is how scientists would describe the results of the test. The observations students made would support (or not support) their predictions. Avoid words such as *right/wrong or good/bad* as these imply value judgments. Have a discussion with students about what the word *accurate* means.

14. Have students repeat Steps 10, 11 and 12 for Box 3. Ask students to gather at the meeting place. Have a class discussion by asking students, “What did you have to do to make the disc slide to box 1? How was that different from Box 2? What did you have to do to get the disc to slide to Box 3? How was that different than sliding the disc to Box 2?” Record predictions for Box 3 on the K.3.C1: Class Notebook.

Image via Emerson/Bandini Elementary, San Diego Unified School District [Used with permission]
Part II

Explore II (20 minutes)

Carry out an investigation to determine if strength of a push affects speed.

15. To introduce measurement of time with the students, take the cruising disc activity outside. Set up an area with a start line and finish line at least 20 feet apart. Using two playground or soccer balls, have two students push the ball at the same time to see which ball goes faster by crossing the finish line first. Counting aloud, “1 and 2 and 3 . . .” to measure how long it takes the first ball to cross the finish line. Repeat with other student pairs.

16. Return to the classroom and lead a discussion about how moving the soccer ball faster is like pushing the discs. Say, “Today we get to do a challenge of whether you or your partner can push the disc so see which disc is faster by determining the disc that crosses the end of the shuffleboard game board first. Each of you will get a disc.” Ask, “What do you need to know to find the faster disc?” Chart students’ questions in the K.3.C1: Class Notebook.

17. Set up two pairs of students in a group of four, and distribute two discs to the group. Two students will watch and be the referees to see which disc lands in goes over the end of the game board first. Have all pairs place their discs at the start line. When you call out, “Ready, Set, Go,” each student will push his disc, trying to go over the end of the game board first but make sure it does not go off the sides of the game board. The winning disc is the one that stays on the game board but crosses the end opposite the start line first.

18. After the first race, allow partners time to explain why one disc went faster than the other. Have students switch roles so that the referee pair gets a chance to play. Students can conduct multiple disc races and monitor to see if students try to change the strength of their push.

Explain II (10 minutes)

Compare data from observations that show the effect of different strength of pushes on the speed of the ball.

19. Ask, “What did you notice about the disc that won the race? Which disc moved faster? How do you know?” Have partners share ideas with the class and record results on a page in the K.3.C1: Class Notebook.

20. Review the results of the partner races. Ask, “How might knowing about pushes that are stronger help us to move a ball towards a goal in soccer?”

TEACHER NOTE

A bigger push or pull results in greater speed. In this case, speed is represented by the first disc to cross the line at the end of the shuffleboard. (using relative time appropriate to kindergarten.)
21. Distribute **K.3.H1: Sandy and Diego**. Orient students to the handout names and figures.

   a. Have students find the picture that goes with number 1 on their handout. Ask, “What kind of push (kick) would Sandy need to use to move the ball to the goal?” Tell students they can look around the room or in their notes for any words that will help them. Also tell them to draw and path of the ball from Sandy to the goal.

   b. Have students find the picture that goes with number 2 on their handout. Ask, “What kind of push (kick) would Sandy need to use to move the ball to Diego?” Write their response and draw the path of the ball from Sandy to Diego to the goal.

**TEACHER NOTE**

Monitor students while they work and look for examples of student work to share. Look for a couple of examples that show a greater push with a longer arrow. The game board for shuffleboard can be placed in the choice centers for at least a week to encourage the use of the academic language and comprehension that a greater push causes a longer distance traveled and a lesser push causes a shorter distance traveled. The choice centers could include words on cards such as greater push, greater distance, less push, less distance to encourage high-level students to read and label the results.

22. Share examples with the whole class. Encourage students to use a uniform way to show movement with arrows. Then allow students to return to update **K.3.H1: Sandy and Diego**.

**Part III**

**Explore III (20 minutes)**

*Predict and observe the cause of making an object stop its movement.*

23. Ask students to think-pair-share about a soccer game and what happens if someone kicks the ball toward the goal. “What might cause the ball to stop?” Chart student ideas in the **K.3.C1: Class Notebook** under the heading, “Stopping the Ball.”

24. Show Side 2 of the Cruising Disc Game Board. Tell students they will work in pairs. One student will try to make a goal with the disc, and the other will act as the goalie and try to stop the disc. Ask, “If you are the goalie, what can you do to stop the disc from going inside the goal?” Add ideas on the **K.3.C1: Class Notebook**.

25. Students can take turns being the goalie and kicker. They may also want to keep score by counting to 5 goals before switching roles.

**Explain III (10 minutes)**

*Compare predictions to observations of how pushing on an object can cause the object to stop.*

26. Come back to the meeting area. Facilitate a discussion using the following questions: “How did you stop the discs? What was the best way to stop the discs? What happened when you didn’t stop the disc?” Label a page of the **K.3.C1: Class Notebook** with the heading, “How to Stop a Disc or a Soccer Ball.” Record student ideas for stopping the ball.
27. Discuss the difference between strong and weak pushes and read the book *Duck in the Trunk* listed in the Literacy Link at the bottom of this page. Discuss the movement described in the book. Lead a discussion of what is real in the book and what is not real. (Fiction)

**Part IV**

**Elaborate/Evaluate (10 minutes)**

*Compare observations linking the results of pushing with different strengths or stopping movement to soccer moves.*

28. ▶ Say, “Let’s think about how we pushed the disc and stopped the disc. How can that help us in a real soccer game if we want to move the ball to the goal?” Have students draw a picture in their science notebook showing how to push the ball farther, push the ball closer, and stop the ball.

**TEACHER NOTE**

Place the game boards in the choice centers for several days. Listen to students using language that describes movement.

29. Review the **K.3.C1: Class Notebook** and talk about what we have figured out. We know how to make a motionless object move with a push or pull, how to move objects with a push or pull, how to make the push stronger or harder, and how to stop the ball. Ask, “What else do you think we need to know about playing soccer?” Chart ideas on a new page of the **K.3.C1: Class Notebook**. Student questions may include: *How do we aim the ball? How do we push the ball harder? How do we get around another player? What else pushes the ball?*

**TEACHER NOTE**

Encourage connections from the disc experience to soccer, especially harder kicks increasing speed and distance. The movement continues unless something stops the movement with a backward push. This might be another player or the goalie. Students still do not know to use other players (collisions) or factors like weather that might cause changes in the way the ball moves.

**Literacy Links**

It would be appropriate to have students interact with text to extend their understanding of pushes. These selections can be read aloud at any time after this lesson where students have experienced pushes. Suggested books include the following:

**Fiction:**

- *Duck in the Truck* by Jez Alborough
- *Sheep in a Jeep: 5-Minute Stories* by Nancie Shaw and Margot Apple
- *Playground Day!* by Jennifer J. Merz
K.3 Cruising Discs

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Class Notebook (continued from Lesson 1)

Pushes and Pulls

What do you need to know about this disc to make it move?

What would you like to ask the students in the video about how to play shuffleboard?

How did you cause the disc to move and stop in Box 1? When it did not go into Box 1, how did you change your push?

Box 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prediction</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Same</td>
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<td>Less</td>
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Box 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prediction</th>
<th>Results</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Less</td>
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What did you have to do to make the disc slide to box 1? How was that different from Box 2? Box 3?

What do you need to know to find the faster disc?

What did you notice about the disc that won the race? Which disc moved faster? How do you know?

Stopping the Ball
How can we stop a disc or a soccer ball?

What else do you think we need to know about playing soccer?
Sandy and Diego

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________________

1

Sandy

push

2

Sandy

Diego

push
Cruising Disc Game Board

Make a board that will emulate a really shuffleboard.

Your side 1 result should look like this:
Cruising Disc Game Board (continued)

Below is a pattern for the two-sided Cruising Disc Game Board:

**Side 1:**

```
Start

1 2 3

4 Inches 4 Inches 4 Inches
```

**Side 2:**

```
GOAL!

```

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)

This lesson is building toward:

**PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS (PE)**

**K-PS2-1** Plan and conduct an investigation to compare the effects of different strengths or different directions of pushes and pulls on the motion of an object.  
([Clarification Statement: Examples of pushes or pulls could include a string attached to an object being pulled, a person pushing an object, a person stopping a rolling ball, and two objects colliding and pushing on each other.]  
[Assessment Boundary: Assessment is limited to different relative strengths or different directions, but not both at the same time. Assessment does not include non-contact pushes or pulls such as those produced by magnets.]

**K-PS2-2** Analyze data to determine if a design solution works as intended to change the speed or direction of an object with a push or a pull.*  
([Clarification Statement: Examples of problems requiring a solution could include having a marble or other object move a certain distance, follow a particular path, and knock down other objects. Examples of solutions could include tools such as a ramp to increase the speed of the object and a structure that would cause an object such as a marble or ball to turn.]  
[Assessment Boundary: Assessment does not include friction as a mechanism for change in speed.]

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**SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PRACTICES (SEP)**

**Planning and Carrying Out an Investigation**

- With guidance, plan and conduct an investigation in collaboration with peers.
- Make predictions based on prior experiences.
- Make observations (first hand or from media) and/or measurements to collect data that can be used to make comparisons.

**Analyzing and Interpreting Data**

- Compare predictions (based on prior experiences) to what occurred (observable events).
- Record information (observations, thoughts, and ideas).

**Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information**

- Communicate information or design ideas and/or solutions with others in oral and/or written forms using models, drawings, writing, or numbers that provide detail about scientific ideas, practices, and/or design ideas.
- Obtain information using various texts, text features (e.g., heading, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) and other media that will be useful in answering a scientific question and/or supporting a scientific claim.
DISCIPLINARY CORE IDEAS (DCI)

PS2.A Forces and Motion

• Pushes and pulls can have different strengths and directions.
• Pushing or pulling on an object can change the speed or direction of its motion and can start or stop it.

PS3.C: Relationship Between Energy and Forces

• A bigger push or pull makes things speed up or slow down more quickly.

CROSSCUTTING CONCEPTS (CCC)

Cause and Effect

• Simple tests can be designed to gather evidence to support or refute student ideas about causes.

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Common Core State Standards (CCSS)

CCSS ELA READING

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.R1.K.1
With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

CCSS SPEAKING AND LISTENING

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.K.3
Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.

MATH PRACTICES

CCSS.Math.MP2
Reason abstractly and quantitatively.

MATH MEASUREMENT AND DATA

CCSS.Math.K.MD.A.1
Describe measurable attributes of objects, such as length or weight. Describe several measurable attributes of a single object.

CCSS.Math.K.MD.A.2
Directly compare two objects with a measurable attribute in common, to see which object has “more of”/“less of” the attribute, and describe the difference.

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Appendix K.3

California English Language Development (ELD) Standards

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<tr>
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<td>P1.K.5 Demonstrate active listening to read-alouds and oral presentations by asking and answering questions with oral sentence frames and occasional prompting and support.</td>
<td>P1.K.5 Demonstrate active listening to read-alouds and oral presentations by asking and answering detailed questions with minimal prompting and light support.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the standard above, you may find that you touch on the following standards in this lesson as well:

P1.K.1 Exchanging information and ideas via oral communication and conversations
P1.K.2 Interacting with written English (print and multimedia)
P1.K.12 Selecting and applying varied and precise vocabulary and other language resources

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