

Tips on using the “Forces 1D” activity and the simulation “Forces in 1 Dimension”

The “Forces 1D” activity was administered to CU students in October, 2008. Students spent one hour with the activity. Few got all the way through it, but the important parts are near the beginning to anticipate this.

Feel free to offer suggestions in response to student questions about how to use the sim or when you see students getting frustrated with something (e.g. when they run out of room going to the right or getting frustrated with their ability to control force by hand).

- *controlling the applied force:*
 - use the “Go” and “Pause” buttons at the left for accurate time control
 - click and drag on the object (release for zero applied force)
 - use the slider on the applied force graph
 - enter a number in “Applied Force” text box
- *reviewing the motion*
 - use the “Pause”, “Rewind” and “Playback” buttons at the bottom
 - drag the cursor along the time axis in the graphs
- *other tips*
 - for studying positive velocities, you can set the starting position near the left with the “Position” slider at the right
 - friction can be turned on and off with the radio button at the right