

## 30. Bodies in Space

### Description of Activity:

- Describing life in space and what happens to the human body and how it might feel to be in Zero Gravity

**Grade(s):** Grade Six

### Strand(s):

- Understanding Earth and Space Systems

### Overall Expectations:

- Allow the students to understand what really happens to people and objects in Zero G

### Specific Expectations:

- Experience the difficulty of moving without gravity.

### Assessment Categories:

- Application
- Thinking and Investigation
- Knowledge and Understanding
- Communication

### Cross-disciplinary connections:

- Social Studies, History & Geography

### Type of Activity:

- Classroom/Science Lab
- Whole class demonstration/presentation
- Small Group Work

### Preparation:

- Ensure that there are many pedestal/office chairs for all students in the class room, making sure that all chairs are safe and stable.

### Approximate time for preparation:

- Set aside 15 minutes to attach strings to enough apples for the students in the class.

### Materials and resources for Teachers and Students:

- Space video clips:
- <http://videos.howstuffworks.com/science-channel/33466-spaced-out-the-human-body-in-space-video.htm>



- <http://videos.howstuffworks.com/science-channel/33410-spaced-out-zero-gravity-video.htm>
- 1 apple per student

### Detailed description

- First, introduce the students to the topic with a 20 min presentation on what life is like for astronauts on the International Space Station, After the students have seen how astronauts move about in zero G, they are to sit in the roller chair and try and spin/move around WITHOUT touching their feet to the ground. To add to the fun, suspend an apple to string, and get the student, in the chair, to try and bite the apple without using hands or feet to stabilize themselves or the apple.

### Approximate time for completion:

- Presentation/video clips – 20 minutes
- Office chair simulation – 10 minutes

### Tips for Teachers/EIRs:

- The chairs are very fun, but make sure every student has a chance to try to move around and/or bite the apple.