

One More Idea: Energy Gets Passed Along

REVEAL AT REVIEW

10 MIN

MARBLES OR BALLS

The point

Energy makes things go — and here is one more idea: energy can be **handed from one thing to another**.

Roll a ball into a still ball, and the still one leaps away: the **go** was passed along, like a baton in a relay.

Do it

- 1 Set a marble (or ball) perfectly still on a smooth floor.
- 2 Roll a second marble into it. Watch the still one **take the go** and run.
- 3 Line up three or four and hit the end of the line — the push travels *through* the middle ones to the far end.
- 4 Ask: “Where did the last marble get its go?” From the first one — passed along.

Say: “Energy is not used up when things bump — it is handed along, from mover to moved.”

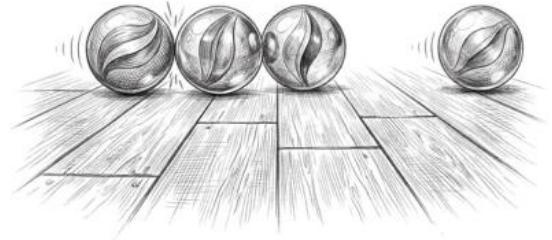


Fig. 1 — the push travels through the line and the far marble takes the go

What to watch for

- The click that the moving ball **slows** as the still one **speeds up** — a trade
- Kids inventing longer relay lines on their own

A PEEK AHEAD

ENERGY CAN ALSO WAIT — STORED IN A STRETCHED BAND OR A LIFTED BALL, READY TO WORK. WAITING ENERGY AND MOVING ENERGY GET A WHOLE LESSON SOON.