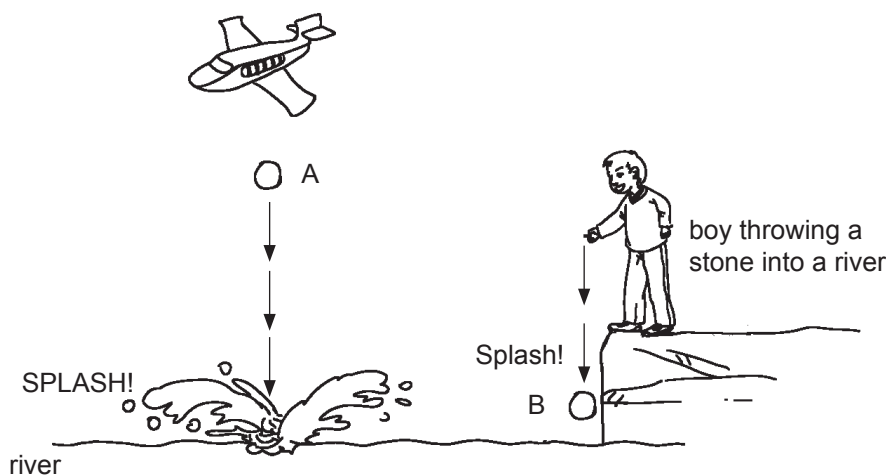


Gravitational Potential Energy

Gravitational potential energy is the energy possessed by an object due to its height above the ground.

Gravitational potential energy exists because the force of the earth's gravity acts on all objects.

The higher above the ground an object is placed, the greater its gravitational potential energy.



Although both stone A and stone B have the same weight and size, stone A produces a bigger splash than stone B because it is dropped from a higher place. Stone A possesses more gravitational potential energy than stone B.

In both cases, the energy conversion is as follows:

gravitational potential energy of falling stone → kinetic energy of falling stone → kinetic energy of splashing water + sound energy of splashing water

All objects that are at a height above the ground possess gravitational potential energy.

Adapted:

PSLE Science Partner: The Complete Guide

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