

## DEFINITIONS A-H

**Aerodynamics:** The science that deals with the flow of air or other gases around an object.

**Air Pressure:** The force exerted by air molecules when they constantly bounce off each other and everything else around them.

**Barrier:** An obstacle, material or immaterial that prevents movement or access.

**Base:** The bottom or lowest part of something that which something rests or is supported.

**Camouflage:** A means by which some animals protect themselves by appearing to blend into their surroundings.

**Force:** A push or a pull that makes an object move or change its speed or direction if it is already moving.

**Frequency:** The number of complete cycles per second of any periodic wave motion.

**Friction:** The resistance caused by moving the surface of one object over the surface of another. Friction slows down movement and produces heat.

**Gravity:** The universal force that attracts all bodies of mass to one another.

**Habitat:** The natural surroundings of a particular area or community of living things.

**Hydrophobic:** Something that can repel or fails to mix with water.

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## DEFINITIONS I-P

**Insulation:** To surround or enclose with a material that prevents passage of heat, electricity, or sound through it.

**Light:** A natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible.

**Load:** The force or weight moved by a pulley, lever, or other simple machine and the weight carried by beams or other structural parts of a building.

**Mass:** The amount of matter in an object, usually measured in grams or kilograms. \*This is not the same as weight. An object's mass remains the same anywhere.

**Momentum:** A measure of the amount of motion of a moving object. Momentum is equal to the mass of the object multiplied by the velocity at which it is moving.

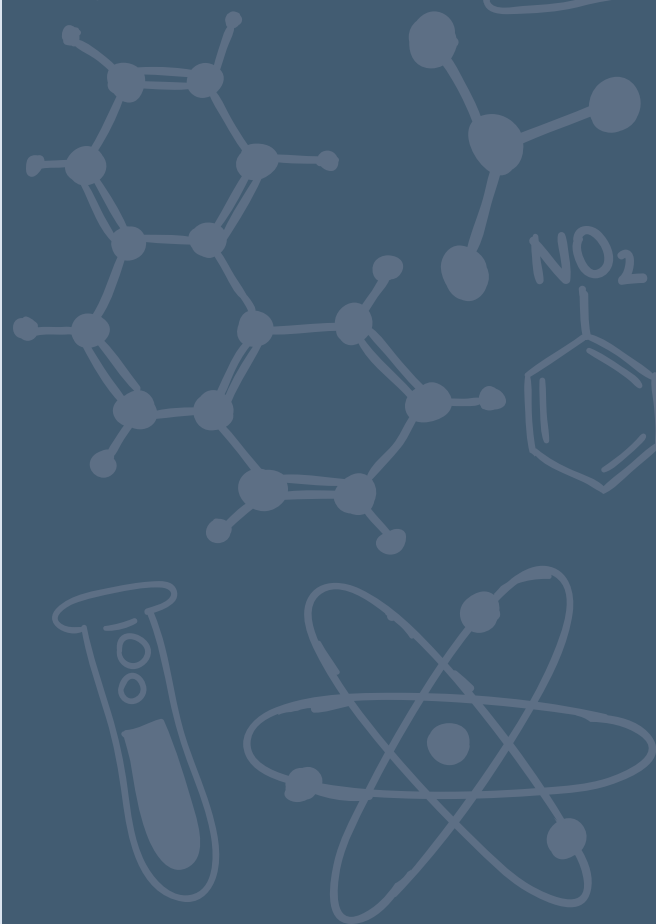
**Nocturnal:** Active during the night.

**Phloem:** The vascular tissue in plants through which dissolved nutrients flow from the leaves to the stems and roots.

**Pigment:** The natural substance that gives color to the tissues of animals or plants.

**Polymer:** A substance composed of very large molecules built up by the linking together of many identical smaller molecules.

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## DEFINITIONS R-Z

**Reflectivity:** The bouncing of energy waves- such as light, heat, electricity, or sound- from a surface.

**Sound:** The sensation produced in hearing organs by vibrations traveling through the air, water, or some other substance.

**Surface Area:** The outside part or upper most layer of something.

**Temperature:** The degree of the average amount of warmth or coldness in an object.

**Tension:** A pulling or stretching force.

**Velocity:** The rate at which a body moves in a given direction, expressed in units of distance and time.

**Vibration:** To move quickly back and forth or up and down at a steady rate.

**Volume:** The quantity/power of a sound.

**Wave Length:** The distance between two successive waves of energy, usually measured from one peak, or crest, to the next peak.

**Weight Distribution:** The spreading out of a weight/load so as to lessen the stress on any one particular part of a structure or vehicle.

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