

Apple on a Desk

Mrs. Canales pointed to an apple sitting on her desk. She asked her student to describe any forces acting on the apple. This is what some of her students said.

Manny: “The only force acting on the apple is air pressure.”

Juliana: “There is one force acting on the apple. Gravity is the force that pulls on the apple.”

Soledad: “There are two forces. Gravity pulls downward on the apple and the desk pushes upward on the apple.”

Kate: “There are no forces acting on the apple because the desk stops any forces from acting on it.”



Write a paper that identifies which student you agree with the most. Use evidence to support your ideas and explain your reasoning.

As you write your assignment, it's important to use what you know as a writer to communicate your ideas effectively.

- Organize your paper with a clear claim, supporting evidence, and reasoning that shows how your evidence supports your claim.
- Include evidence from class activities, experiments and other resources.
- Use vocabulary that you have learned in science class.
- Consider using a web or graphic organizer to help you plan your writing.
- Correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling errors before you write your final paper.

Living or Non-Living?

Students were classifying different things as living or non-living. The items they were asked to classify include the following:

Butterfly	Fire
Mushroom	Tree
Hibernating Bear	Boy
Seed	River



Write a paper that identifies which of these things are living and non-living. Use evidence to support your ideas and explain your reasoning.

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Beach Sand

Three friends were walking along a beach in Boston. They looked closely at the sand and noticed it was made of tiny particles of rock. They had different ideas about where the sand came from.



Marcos: “I think the sand came from distant mountains and landforms.”

Tai: “I think the sand came from rocks on the ocean floor.”

Kayla: “I think the sand came from undersea mountains and sea floor formations.”

Write a paper that identifies which explanation is correct. Use evidence to support your ideas and explain your reasoning.

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