

Kids Discover: Newton's First Law
Part of the Kids Discover Science Series

by

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Background and art note: Gertrude and Linus are in the kitchen. It is lunchtime.

Gertrude is going to make lunch for Linus. Linus is in his high chair.

Linus: “Want egg salad.”

Gertrude: “Sure, Linus, I can make that for you.”

Art note: Gertrude looks at a bowl of eggs.

Gertrude: “You just take some eggs, and some mayo . . .” *Art note: Gertrude slams the egg down hard on the counter and it breaks, leaking liquid egg white and yolk everywhere.*

Gertrude: “Oh no!”

Linus: “Mess!”

Gertrude: “I thought these were all hard-cooked, but some aren’t. How can I find out which is which?”

Art note: Gertrude begins thinking. Thought bubbles come up over her head with all the things she’s learning in school . . . math, music, plants, and the planets.

Gertrude: “I know! The planets! Linus, I learned in school that if a planet has a liquid core, it will wobble while it spins!

Art note: An illustration of this.

Gertrude: “Could that also be true for eggs? Let’s see.”

Art note: Gertrude lines up two eggs. She spins one, and it wobbles quite a bit. She spins another one, and that wobbles quite a bit too. She takes another one and spins it, it hardly wobbles at all.

Gertrude: Linus, I think this one is hard-cooked! It didn’t wobble!

Linus: No wobble!

Gertrude: Want to test it? Hit it and see!

Linus: Crack it. *Art note: Linus cracks the egg and then in the background he begins to peel it.*

Gertrude: Wait! I have another idea.

Art note: Gertrude takes the egg back.

Linus: No!!! Mine!!! Hit it! *Art note: Linus bursts into tears.*

Gertrude: Not yet, Linus. Want to try something? I'll show you.

Art note: In panels, show Gertrude spinning the egg, stopping it with her finger, and letting go.

The egg stops.

Gertrude: See Linus, it stopped.

Linus: Stopped.

Gertrude: Now, Linus, try that with this one. *Art note: She picks up one of the ones that wobbled.*

Art note: Linus spins it, stops it with his finger, lets go, but the egg keeps spinning.

Gertrude: See? It keeps spinning!

Gertrude: OK, Linus, now you get to tell which is which. Pick one. *Art note: She hands him the bowl and he reaches in to pick one.*

Gertrude: Spin it, Linus!

Linus: "Spin it." *Art note: Linus spins it. It hardly wobbles.*

Gertrude: "Let's double check now. Spin it and stop it."

Linus: "Spin it and stop it."

Art note: Linus spins the egg, stops it, and lets go. The egg has stopped, it does not spin.

Gertrude: “OK, guess we are ready to make the egg salad! Let’s smash these!” Art note: She holds up the two that have been deemed ‘hard-cooked’.

Linus: Smash!

Art note: Both kids crack and begin peeling the hard-cooked eggs.