# Kepler's Laws

Novice

* Understand that the motions of planets are governed by laws.
* Recognize the pattern of longer orbits at further distances.

Intermediate

* Make calculations regarding orbital periods, semi-major axes, and ellipses.

Expert

* Derive the mass of a central body from the orbital parameters of the orbiting body.
* Derive Kepler’s Law of Periods (Kepler’s Third Law of Planetary Motion) from Newton’s Law of Universal Gravitation.

# Related NGSS

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| Grade Level | Student Performance Expectations |
| 3-5 | 3-PS2-2   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Make observations and/or measurements of an object’s motion to provide evidence that a pattern can be used to predict future motion.** | |
| MS | MS-ESS1-1   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Develop and use a model of the Earth-sun-moon system to describe the cyclic patterns of lunar phases, eclipses of the sun and moon, and seasons.** | |
| HS | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **HS-ESS1-4** | **Use mathematical or computational representations to predict the motion of orbiting objects in the solar system.** | |

# Related CCSSM

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| Grade Level | Student Performance Expectations |
| 3-5 | **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**  Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to *decontextualize*—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to *contextualize*, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects. |
| MS | **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics.**  Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.6.RP.A.1 Ratios and Proportional Relationships**  Understand the concept of a ratio and use ratio language to describe a ratio relationship between two quantities.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.7.RP.A.2 Ratios and Proportional Relationships**  Recognize and represent proportional relationships between quantities. |
| HS | **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**  Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to *decontextualize*—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to *contextualize*, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.  **CCSS.MATH.PRACTICE.MP4 Model with mathematics.**  Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSN.Q.A.1**  Use units as a way to understand problems and to guide the solution of multi-step problems; choose and interpret units consistently in formulas; choose and interpret the scale and the origin in graphs and data displays.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSN.Q.A.2**  Define appropriate quantities for the purpose of descriptive modeling.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSN.Q.A.3**  Choose a level of accuracy appropriate to limitations on measurement when reporting quantities.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.SSE.A.1 Seeing structure in Expressions**  Interpret expressions that represent a quantity in terms of its context.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.CED.A.2 Creating Equations**  Create equations in two or more variables to represent relationships between quantities; graph equations on coordinate axes with labels and scales.  **CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.HSA.CED.A.4 Creating Equations**  Rearrange formulas to highlight a quantity of interest, using the same reasoning as in solving equations. |