

Waves Investigation – 60 min Lesson PreAP Physics

	PRIOR KNOWLEDGE		
PRE-PLANNING	A wave is any disturbance that carries energy through matter or space.		
	LEARNING GOALS		
	Investigate the properties of a transverse wave.		
	• Observe how waves behave when they have a loose, fixed or no en	d.	
	Common Core Standards	Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)	
	Use mathematical representations to support a claim regarding relationships among the frequency, wavelength and speed of waves traveling in various media. characteristics of waves, including velocity, frequency, amplitude, and wavelength, and calculate the relationship between wavespeed, frequency, and wavelength Cause and Effect: empirical evidence is required to differentiate between cause and correlation and make claims about specific causes and effects. frequency, and wavelength Science and Engineering Practices Using Mathematics and Computational Thinking: use mathematical representations of phenomena to describe explanations frequency, and wavelength MATERIALS PhET Wave on a String https://phet.colorado.edu/en/simulation/wave-on-a-string PreAP Wave Investigation Handout – 1 per student Waves on a String Exit Quiz – 1 per student Slinky – 1 per pair		
	ENGAGE 10 minutes		
	Pass out 1 slinky per group of 2 students. Ask students to make the slinky have 3 different shapes while having one student hold each end. Have each pair demonstrate the shape they were able to make. Discuss similarities and differences between shapes created.		
	Part 1 – Beginning Observations	10 minutes	
	Teacher will	Students will	
	Pass out Wave Investigation handout. Select 2-3 students that will share out their observations with the class. If possible, have students show their findings using the teacher computer in front of the room.	Explore the simulation and make beginning observations (Part 1 of lab).	
ζŢ	Part 2 -3 – Manual and Oscillate	30 minutes	
Ú Z	Teacher will	Students will	
LESSON	Introduce lab expectations.	Complete investigations using manual and oscillate functions in simulation.	
	Circulate while students are completing the investigation and ask guiding questions.		
	 The following guiding questions could be asked to individual/groups of students as the teacher circulates. Guiding Questions What are the characteristics of waves? What is amplitude? Tension? Damping? How does the amplitude affect the speed of the wave? 		

5. How do waves behave differently with free and fixed ends?	
Exit Ticket	10 minutes
Teacher will	Students will
Distribute Exit Ticket to students.	Complete their Exit Ticket individually.
Collect lab investigations	