

Unit 3 Handout 5

Lesson 2: Testing the Motion of Waves

Purpose: To use a spring to investigate different kinds of waves.

Guiding Questions:

- What is a wave?
- How are the waves generated by an earthquake similar and different to each other?

Instructions. Follow the procedure starting on page 14 of your XPT textbook. A few modifications will be made:

- We will not use string, we will simply hold the spring.
- We will not use construction paper, we will use the floor tiles for measurement.

Question: How does the type of wave affect the time it takes the wave to travel back and forth in a spring?

Ind. variable: _____ Dep. variable: _____

Data Table.

Title: _____

Type of Earthquake Body Wave	Sketch of How Spring Moves	Time for Wave to Travel Back and Forth One Complete Trip (in seconds)			
		Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Mean*
Push and Pull (P-Wave), Step 6					
Side to Side (S-Wave), Step 7					

* Average mean. Add trials and divide by 3.

Continue on to the back of the sheet.

