

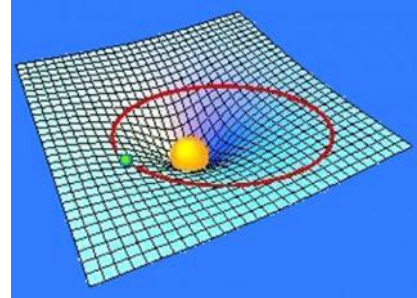
Name: _____

Gravity

Gravity is a force that attracts one mass to another. But gravity isn't thought to be like a magnet that pulls things towards it.

Instead, one view of **gravity** is thought of as like a piece of fabric.

When an object with mass sits upon the fabric, it pushes and indents the fabric, or bends it slightly. Other objects that are moving in a straight line nearby follow the bend in the fabric and move around the larger mass.



Try this: Have 4 friends tightly hold a pillowcase at the corners. Place a tennis ball in the center. What happens? Now roll a ping pong ball or golf ball onto the fabric. What happens?

Here on Earth, it feels like everything is being pulled down. We don't float away. If we drop something, it falls to the ground. That force we feel is **gravity**.

Directions: Draw an arrow to show the direction each object will fall.

