

Phet Labs

1. Go to the Energy Skate Park: Basics simulation
2. Click on intro
3. Turn on the bar graph option.
4. Take the skateboarder and drag them to the top of the U shaped ramp
5. Answer/discuss the following:
 - a. When is the kinetic energy at its highest?
 - b. When is the potential energy at its highest?
 - c. What do you notice about the total energy?
6. Turn on the speed indicator then answer/discuss the following:
 - a. What do you notice about the speed and the kinetic energy?
 - b. What do you notice about the speed and the potential energy?
7. Change the mass of the skateboarder. Answer/discuss the following:
 - a. What happens to the total energy?
 - b. Why do you think this happens?
8. Play around with the simulation for a few minutes then answer/discuss the following:
 - a. What is kinetic energy?
 - b. What is potential energy?