Mission Assignment: Explore the Elastic Potential Energy Store

Hooke's law of elasticity

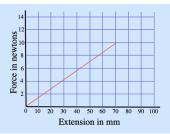


Robert Hooke was a brilliant scientist and architect. He proposed, or assisted in, many scientific discoveries of his time. As an assistant to Robert Boyle, he developed gas pumps that helped in the foundation of the gas laws. He was fascinated by the solar system and made observations of Mars and Jupiter. He proposed an inverse square law based on his findings that inspired Sir Isaac Newton.

In 1660, when he was only 25, he discovered the law of elasticity, now known as Hooke's law; that the extension of a spring is directly proportional to the load that is applied, F=ke. k is the spring constant.

Elastic potential energy is the energy stored as a result of deforming an elastic object.

elastic	spring					
potential	=	1⁄2	Χ	constant	Χ	extension ²
energy (Ee)		k			(e²)	
(LC)	Ee = $\frac{1}{2}$ ke ²					



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This graph illustrates the relationship of the force (in newtons) applied to extend (in mm) the spring.

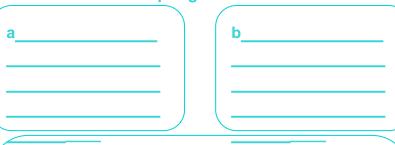
Question:

a. Rearrange the equation to make k the subject, then, b. rearrange to make e the subject.

Question:

Calculate the elastic potential energy stored by a spring with a constant of 72.0N/m that is extended by 0.300 m





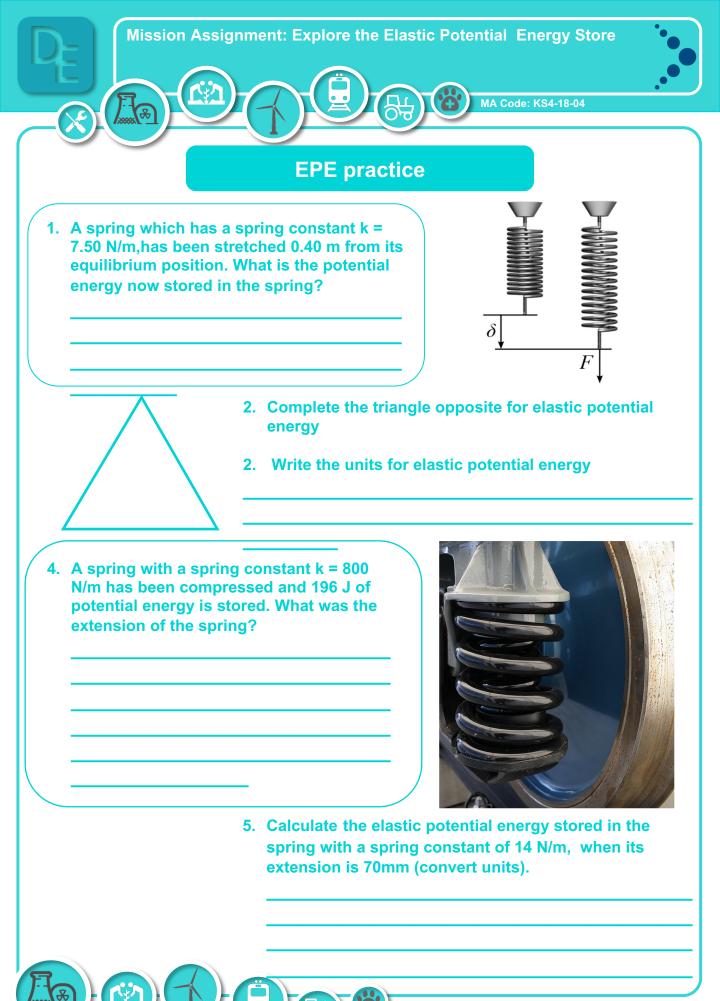
Example:

Calculate the elastic potential energy stored by a spring with a constant of 72.0N/m that is extended by 0.300 m

spring EPE = $\frac{1}{2}$ X constant X extension²

 $= 0.5 \times 72.0 \times 0.300^2$

= 3.24 J



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1. You need:-

- 1 cotton spool
- 1 toothpick
- 1 elastic band
- 4 rubber washers
 - Tape or paperclip
- 2. Thread the elastic band through the spool and secure at one end with paperclip and tape.
- 3. Insert a toothpick in the other end of the elastic band and wind up.
- 4. Set up the first run of your racer, observe and record findings in the table below.
- 5. Make 4 more runs, adding another washer between the toothpick and spool on each run. Record your findings.
- 6. In the last section, in your own words, explain the relationship between potential, kinetic, and elastic potential energy based on your recorded findings.
- 7. How does friction affect the spool racer?

Spool racer challenger







Observations and findings of the spool racer runs	Run no.
	1
	2
	3
	4
	5