



Tumbling Dominoes

Lesson Logistics

Learning Outcomes

Grades 10-12
Energy and momentum

Class Organization

The first part of the activity can be done for the entire class. The second part, *Climbing Dominoes*, can be done with the entire class or in groups, depending on the number of cereal boxes and the amount of standing room near the stairs. Students can be broken up into groups of three or four to complete the handout after the demonstration.

Ensure that each student has a Student Handout and a pencil.

Notes

The large dominoes are very heavy—the largest one in the WOW Lab set weighs nearly 50 pounds. Care must be taken that the dominoes do not hit students or objects when they are set in motion.

Further Exploration

Depending on the resources available, the teacher can build more dominoes. In any pair, it must be kept in mind that the bigger domino can only be 1.5 times bigger in any dimension than the smaller domino.

If there are an excess of cereal boxes, more interesting paths of falling dominoes can be created. For example, an arc can be created so that the domino chain goes up the stairs, turns back at the landing and then falls back down the stairs.