

Traveling Waves



The Big Spring



Slinky and Tube Container

Purpose: Demonstrates wave motion.

We have two large springs which are useful for showing traveling waves.

The 'Big Spring' is very long and extremely well suited for demonstrating transverse traveling wave pulses. With an assistant in the other end, you can launch pulses towards each other, clearly seeing the superposition of the two pulses. With one end fixed, the students can see the pulses invert upon reflection.

The large slinky is the classic for demonstrating traveling waves. It is particularly good at showing compression waves. It stores in a cardboard tube to prevent getting tangled.

Note:

Extra Equipment: An assistant or two from the audience.

Location: Shelf D2