

Describing Motion

Imagine you are carrying a bowl of soup on a food tray as you walk toward your favorite table. Suddenly, someone walks in front of you. You stop abruptly to avoid a collision.

1. Describe the motion of the soup in the bowl immediately after your abrupt stop.
2. Explain why you think the soup in the bowl behaved the way it did.

ANSWERS

1. The soup in the bowl continues forward and spills over the bowl's front edge onto the food tray.

2. Students should not be assessed on this response. Accept all reasonable responses. The soup's motion is explained by momentum. The momentum of the soup keeps it moving forward after the forward motion of the food tray has been halted.