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opening extract from

# **Physics** **- why matter matters!**

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published by

**Kingfisher an imprint of  
Macmillan Children's Books**

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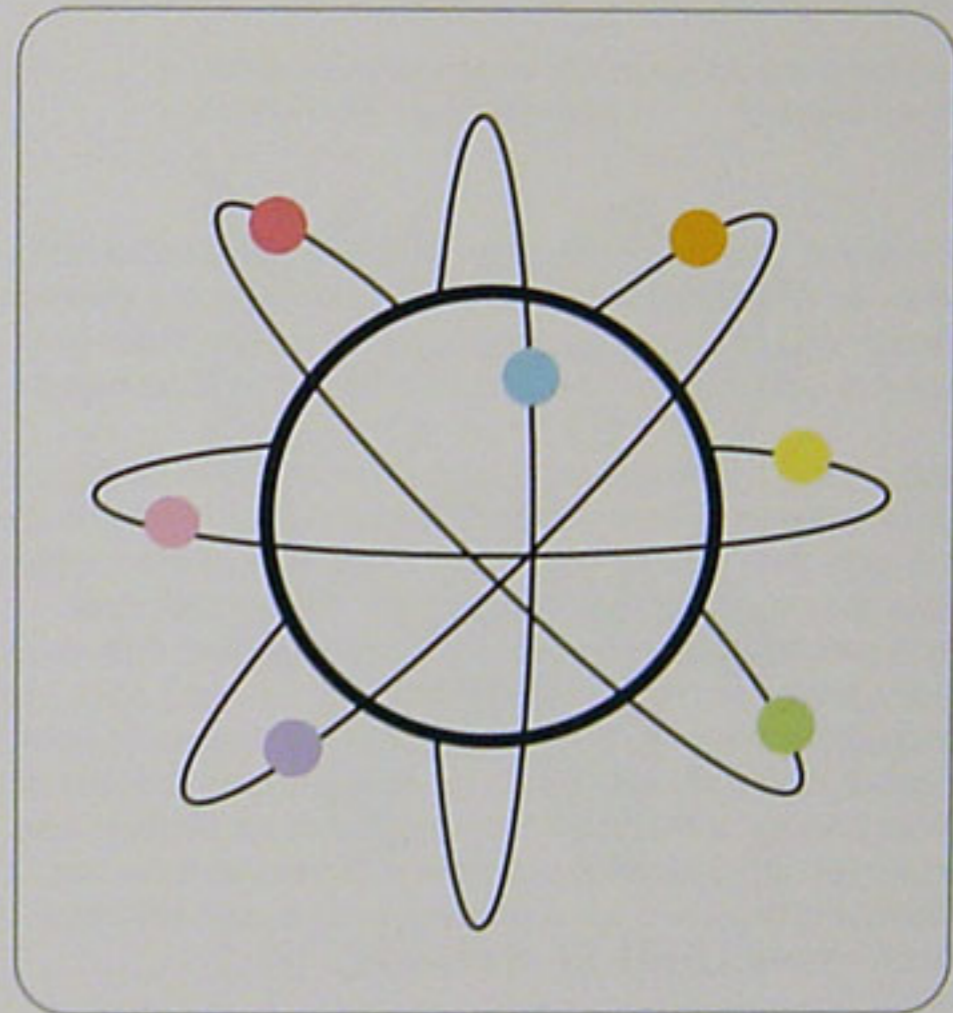
# Physics

## Introduction

- ✦ Physics is the study of Energy and matter and how they interact
- ✦ The most fundamental and far-reaching of all sciences
- ✦ There's much more to the Universe than meets the eye...

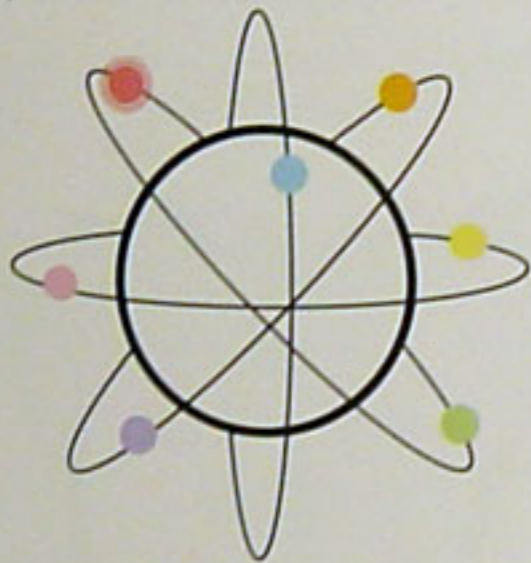
Physics is all about knowing – or trying to find out – what makes the Universe tick. It started out with some naturally nosy people who wanted to know why the things around them did what they did. Nothing has changed today, but over the past few centuries, we've realized that there are whole worlds both bigger and smaller than our human senses can detect.

Physics can be daunting at first, full of facts and formulas, but this book peels back the stuffy layers to show you the main players behind the scenes. You'll meet everyday characters, such as Friction, who slows your bike down, and others, such as the super-fast Neutrinos, who are out of this world. They are a dashing lot, full of pizzazz, and they're all in here waiting for you...



# Chapter 1

Old School



This robust and gung-ho bunch tell us how things in the everyday world interact with each other. They are big, lumbering lunks who love to knock about together. The Old School all concern matter – the stuff that other stuff is made of – and what happens when forces are put in the mix. Without this lot, there's no way we could even hope to understand our Universe. Even though they are "old school", this gang is showing no sign of slowing down. You could say that these forceful fellows are the ones that really matter!

