**Vocabulary: Pendulum Clock**

dictionary2

**Vocabulary**

* Bob – a hanging weight.
* Calibrate – adjust a device to make it more accurate.
* Controlled experiment – a fair test of a hypothesis.
  + Generally, in a controlled experiment, all conditions are kept the same except for the variable being tested.
* Gravity – the force of attraction between all objects in the universe.
  + On Earth or other planets, gravity causes objects to fall toward the planet’s surface.
  + Gravity is only significant when one of the objects is very large, like the Earth. There is very, very little gravitational attraction between you and your couch – but there is some!
* Mass – the amount of matter in an object.
  + *Misconception alert: Mass is not the same as weight. Your weight is related to gravity. Mass is not. If you went to Jupiter, your* ***mass*** *(amount of matter) would be the same, but your* ***weight*** *would be much more than on Earth.*
* Pendulum – a weight hung from a fixed point so that it can swing back and forth.
* Period – the amount of time that it takes to complete a cycle.
  + For a pendulum, the period is the time it takes for one back-and-forth swing.
* Variable – a factor that can be changed in an experiment.