

# HomeFront. PROJECT

# Kids

Teach, Empower and Enjoy Your Children.

## Empowered Mothers and Daughters Kinetic Ball Experiment

**Required Materials:** Two balls that can bounce, one larger and one smaller

**Introduction:** The “second wave” of feminism had different ideas and desires for what women wanted to accomplish. With the beginning of World War II, men left their jobs to fight in the war. Women replaced the men in those jobs. When the war was over the men got their jobs back. Some women felt this was unfair, and these sentiments continued for many years into the 1950’s and 1960’s. As with any large group, the individuals within the group had different ideas and values that mattered to them. Let’s demonstrate this visually.

### Directions:

- 1 Make sure that you have enough space available for both balls to bounce.
- 2 Get the large and the small ball.
- 3 Put the smaller ball on top of the larger ball.
- 4 Let go of the balls and watch as the balls fall to the ground. The smaller ball should bounce much higher than the larger ball.

**Discussion:** What happened with the balls is what happened with the feminist movement. While in the first wave, with women like Susan B. Anthony, it was more united around women’s voting and property rights, marriage, and family. Whereas the women involved in the second wave of feminism were divided on their ideas and moved in a different direction – just like the balls did in our experiment. One of the biggest distinctions of this “second wave of feminism” was that women did not agree with the importance of marriage, family and protecting children.

- What do you think might have caused these women to have so many different ideas on what women might want from life?
- What do you think is most important in life?
- Do you think what women want from life has really changed that much over the decades?

Inspired by:

- Science Experiment for Kids, <https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments/bouncingballs.html>
- What was the Second Wave Feminist Movement, [https://dailyhistory.org/What\\_was\\_the\\_Second\\_Wave\\_Feminist\\_Movement](https://dailyhistory.org/What_was_the_Second_Wave_Feminist_Movement)