

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

46: The Coriolis Force

Imagine you're on a rotating merry-go-round, and you throw a ball to another person who's on the opposite side of the merry-go-round. If you aim directly at the other person, you'll miss them - the ball will travel in a straight line relative to the ground, but the merry-go-round will have rotated during the time the ball is in the air. Relative to the merry-go-round, the ball will appear to move along a curved path. You can attribute this curvature to a "fictitious force" called the Coriolis force.

[46.1: Introduction to the Coriolis Force](#)

[46.2: Examples](#)

46: The Coriolis Force is shared under a [CC BY-NC-SA 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by LibreTexts.