

## Vocabulary: Pendulum Clock



### 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.