

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# What Are Waves?

## KEY CONCEPTS

- A wave is a disturbance that transfers energy from place to place
- A mechanical wave is produced when a source of energy causes a medium to vibrate
- Mechanical waves can be either *Transverse* or *Longitudinal*

Use the attached glossary to first define each group of words then compare and contrast how the words are related to each other.

1. Wave:

Energy:

Relationship:

2. Medium:

Mechanical Waves:

Vibration:

Relationship:

3. Transverse Waves:

Crest:

Trough:

Relationship:

#### 4. Longitudinal Waves:

Compressions:

Rarefactions:

Relationship:

Use the diagram below to answer the following questions:

1. Which point is the crest?
2. Which point is the trough?
3. Is this a longitudinal wave or a transverse wave?

