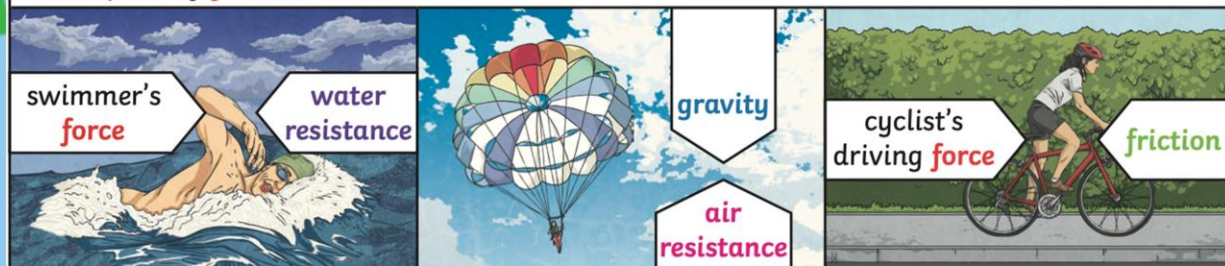




What are air and water resistance?

Examples of **forces** in action:

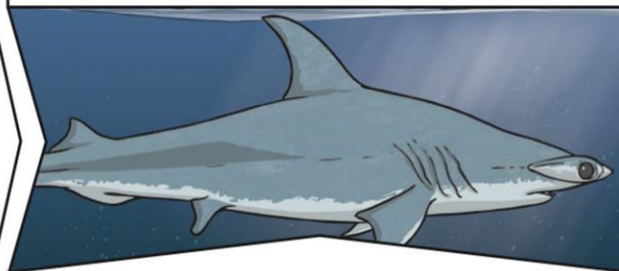


Water resistance and **air resistance** are forms of **friction**. **Friction** is sometimes helpful and sometimes unhelpful. For example, **air resistance** is helpful as it stops the skydiver hitting the ground at high speed. **Friction** on a bike chain can make the bike harder to pedal so it is unhelpful.

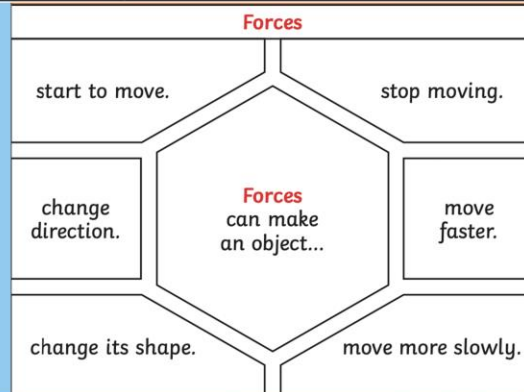
How can we reduce the impact of water resistance?

It has a pointed nose to cut through the water, and a smooth, low, curved back to allow the water to flow over and around it.

This shark is **streamlined**.



It does not create much **water resistance** so it can move through the water quickly.



Key Vocabulary

friction	A force that acts between two surfaces or objects that are moving, or trying to move, across each other.
air resistance	A type of friction caused by air pushing against any moving object.
water resistance	A type of friction caused by water pushing against any moving object.
buoyancy	An object is buoyant if it floats. This is because the weight of the object is equal to the upthrust .
streamlined	When an object is shaped to minimise the effects of air or water resistance .
mechanism	Mechanisms are simple machines with moving parts that change input forces and movement into a set of useful output forces. Examples of mechanisms are pulleys, gears and levers.
upthrust	A force that pushes objects up, usually in water.