

How Amusement Parks Work



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How Amusement Parks Work

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The Science of Amusement Parks

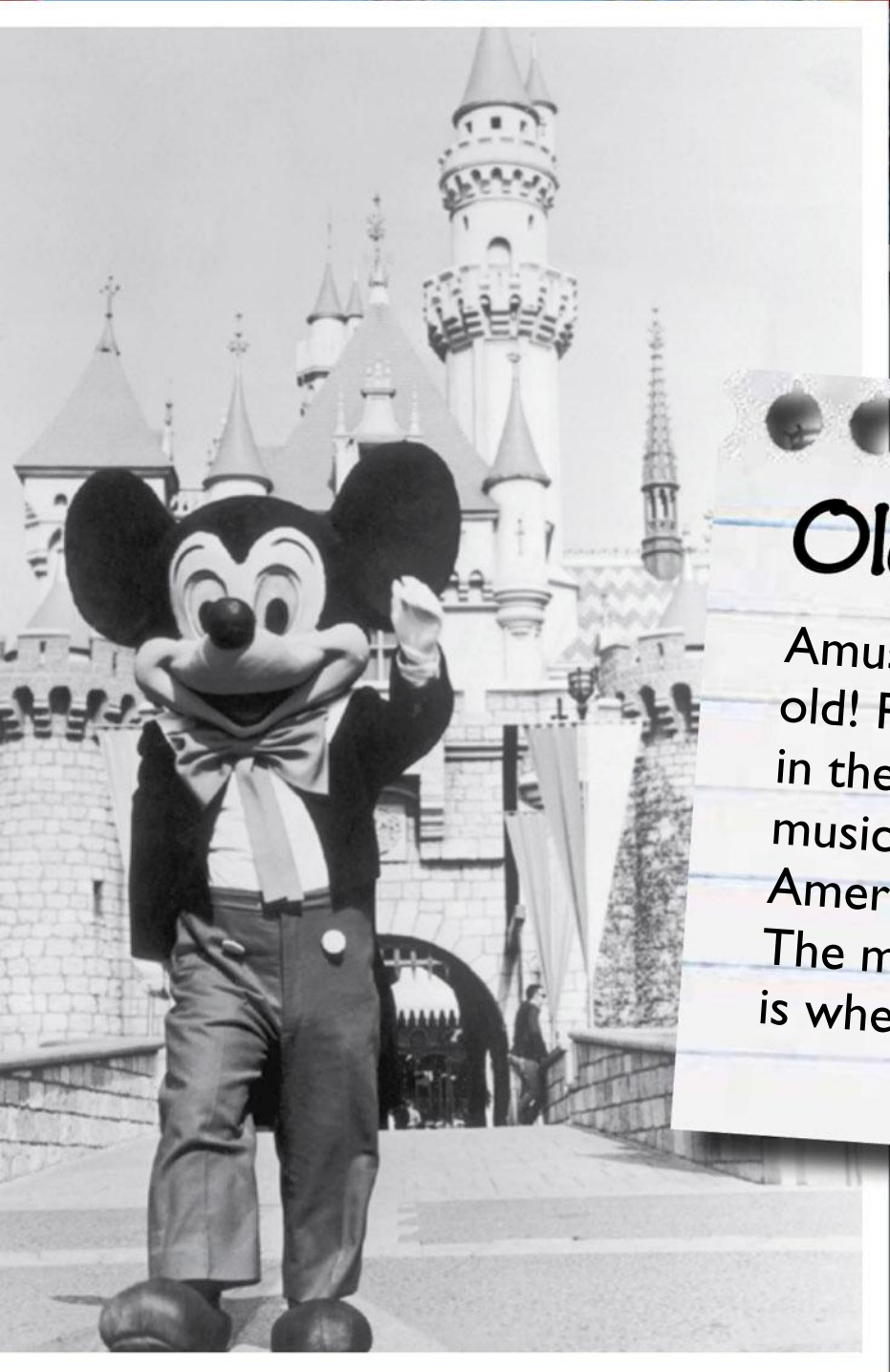
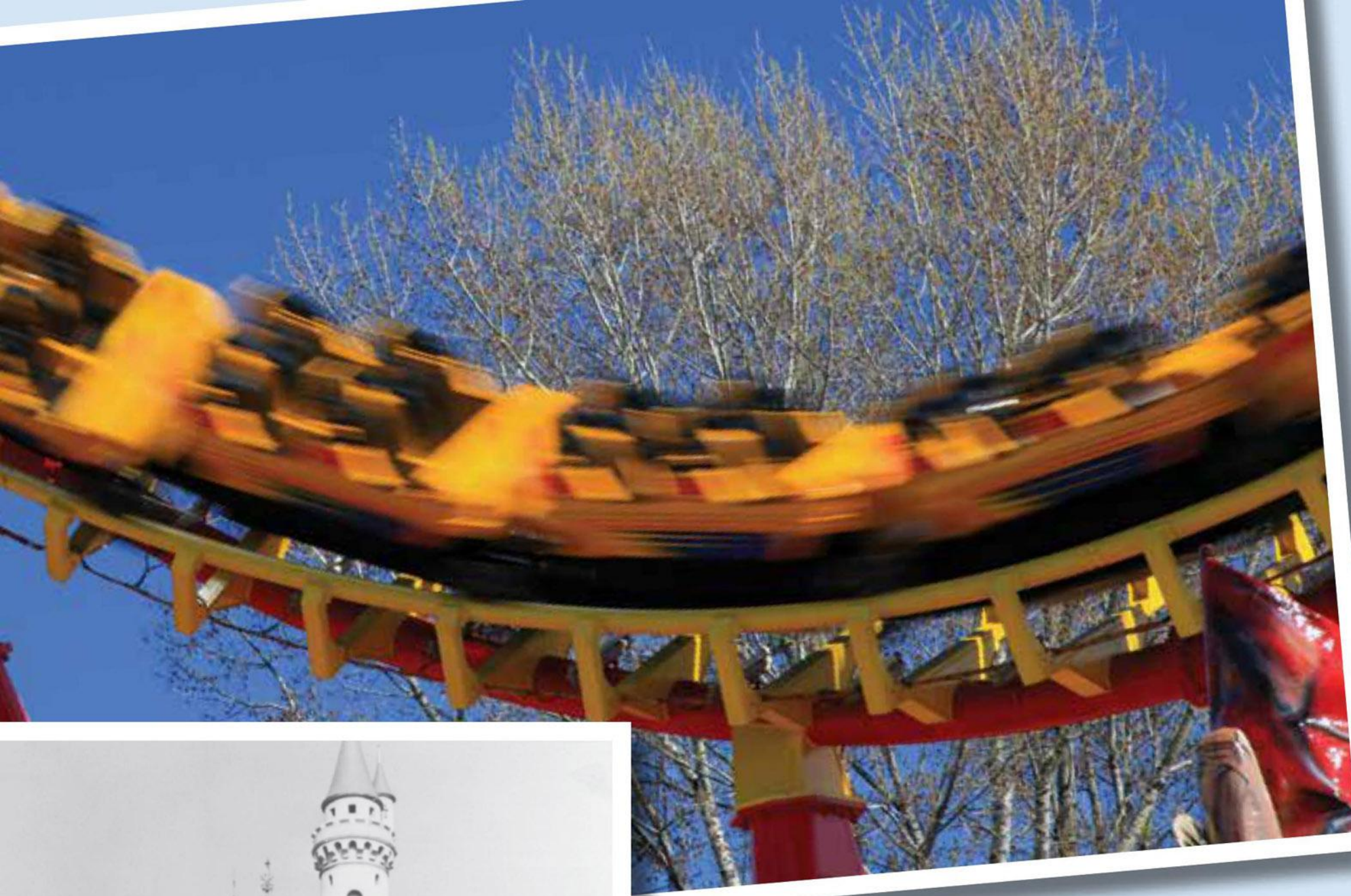
Have you ever been to an amusement park? Millions of people visit these fun parks every year. Not many people think about science while there. But amusement parks would not exist without science! In fact, you could think of an amusement park as one big science lab.

Do you wonder how amusement park rides work? What keeps the roller coaster on its track? How does the free-fall ride stop? What keeps the Ferris wheel steady?

Mechanics (muh-KAN-iks) can answer most of these questions. Mechanics is the type of science that deals with **motion**. Most people who design rides are **engineers** (en-juh-NEERS). Engineers are people who study mechanics.



Disneyland became the first modern theme park when it opened in Anaheim, California, in 1955.



Older Than You Think!

Amusement parks are more than 500 years old! Pleasure Gardens in Europe began in the 1500s. They had rides, games, and music. New York's Coney Island was North America's first amusement park in the 1870s. The modern theme park began in 1955. That is when Walt Disney opened Disneyland.

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