



# Where to look for springs

Springs can be found in many places  
– you just need to look for them.

What do you think a **SPRING** is?

Most people think a spring is a piece of wire made into a coil. We call this type of spring a **COILED SPRING**.

Coiled springs can be found in torches (Picture 1), staplers (Picture 2), ballpoint pens (Picture 3), spring balances (Picture 4) and door latches (Picture 5). In this book you will find that there are many other kinds of spring, too.

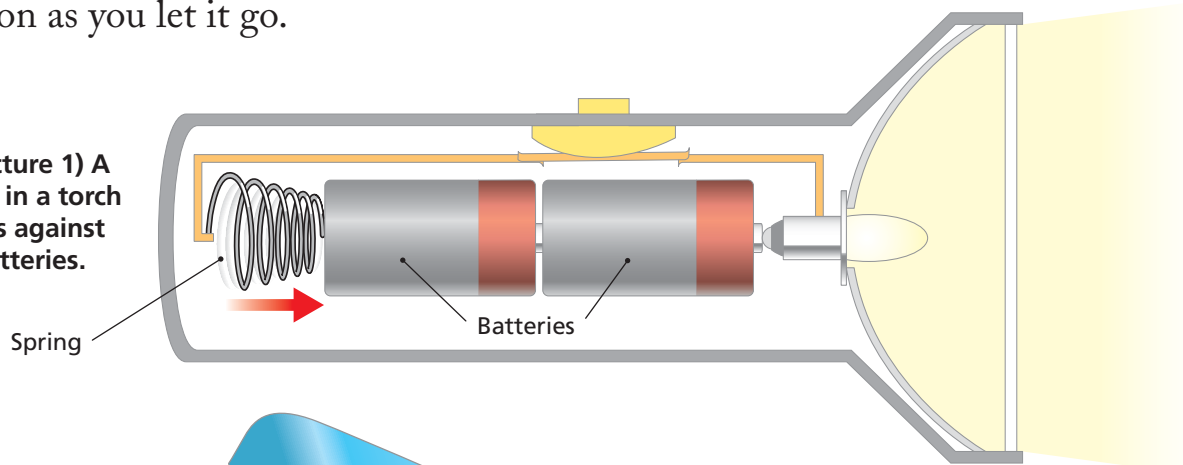
An elastic band is a kind of spring (Picture 6). It springs back into shape as soon as you let it go.

Even a bent piece of metal can be a spring. Look at a paperclip (Picture 7) or a bulldog clip (Picture 8).

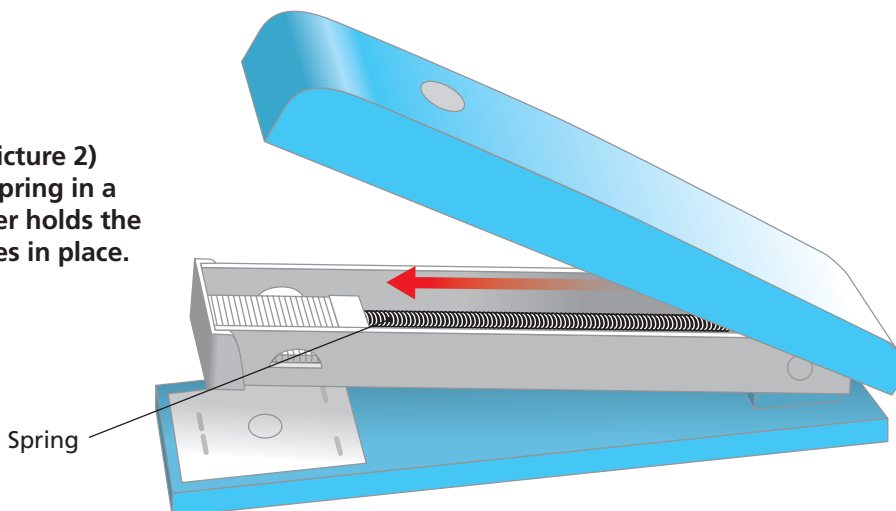
## Springing back

As you can see, there are many kinds of spring. But they all share this in common: when we pull or push on a spring it changes shape, but when we let go it springs back to the shape it started with.

► (Picture 1) A spring in a torch pushes against the batteries.

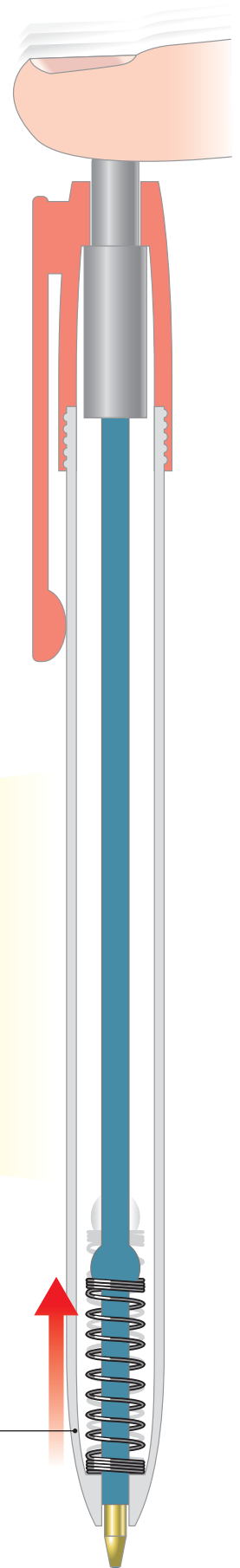


► (Picture 2) The spring in a stapler holds the staples in place.



► (Picture 3) The spring in a ballpoint pen holds the point in place.

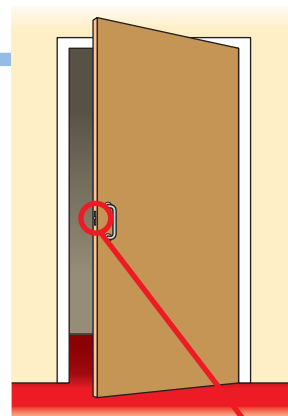
Spring



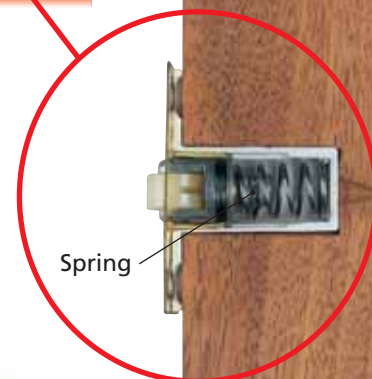


▶ (Picture 4) A spring inside a balance allows different weights to be measured.

Spring



▶ (Picture 5) When you close a door the latch is often spring-loaded to hold the door shut. You can see the hidden spring in this cut-away picture.

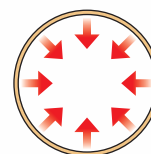
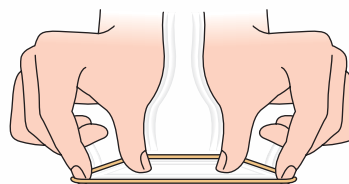


Spring

▼ (Picture 6) An elastic band holding a paper cover on a jar.

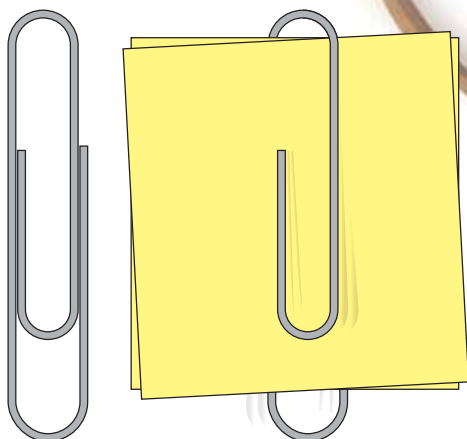


The elastic band is pulled outwards to make it big enough to go over the neck of the jar.



The elastic band pulls back inwards as it tries to return to its original shape.

▼ (Picture 7) A paperclip is a spring.



### Summary

- A spring is something that returns to its starting shape when it is no longer pushed or pulled.
- Springs can be made of many materials and can have many shapes.

▶ (Picture 8) A bulldog clip is a spring.

