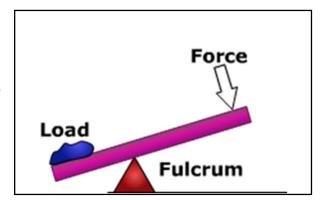
## The Six Simple Machines Defining and Understanding

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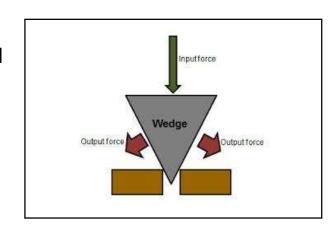
## Simple machines are devices that make doing work easier. They have few or no moving parts.

For each listed Simple Machine, find a picture that you can draw that shows that simple machine.

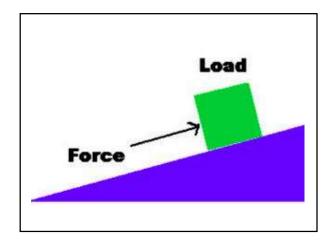
Lever – A lever is an arm that "pivots" (turns) against a "fulcrum" (point). The "fulcrum" is the resting or balancing point upon which a lever turns. Someone or something has to push or pull on a lever to make it work.



**Wedge** – A wedge is a kind of inclined plane where the pointed edges are used to do some kind of work like tightening, securing or holding, or splitting things apart.



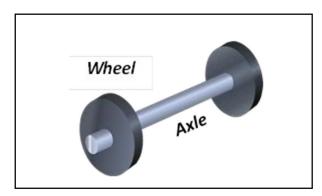
Inclined Plane – An inclined plane is a flat surface that is higher on one end. You can use this simple machine to move an object to a lower or higher place. Inclined planes make the work of moving things easier. You would need less energy and force to move objects with an inclined plane.



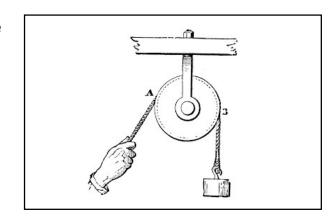
**Screw** – A threaded cylinder made by wrapping an inclined plane around a central cylinder. A screw can raise weights or it can press or fasten objects.



Wheel and Axle – The wheel and axle is a kind of lever that moves objects across distances. The axle is a rod that attaches to the center of the wheel. This lets the wheel turn.



Pulley – The pulley is made up of a rope that fits on the groove of a wheel. One part of the rope is attached to the load. When you pull on one side of the pulley, the wheel turns and the load will move. Pulleys let us move loads up, down, or sideways. Pulleys can be simple or compound.



**Gear** – This simple machine is a toothed wheel. Two or more toothed wheels fit together so that one wheel will turn the other(s). Gears are used to control speed and direction of motion. This is a type of wheel and axle simple machine with the addition of teeth. Sometimes called a cogwheel. Sometimes the teeth are also called cogs.

