



I SPY... SIMPLE MACHINES!



MATERIALS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

- Simple Machines handout
- Pencil / writing tool
- Optional: camera
- Your little eye to spy with!

KEY VOCABULARY

Machine:

A tool used to make work easier!

Simple Machine:

A device that can change the direction or magnitude of a force.

Complex Machine:

A machine made up of two or more simple machines.

This activity is inspired by our Simple Machines educational programs at the PumpHouse.

Learn more at: <https://www.kingstonpumphouse.ca/learn-explore/educators>

Subscribe to our Educator newsletter to get more updates! [Click here to sign up.](#)

I spy with my little eye... simple machines! Simple machines can be found everywhere. Let's review the 6 types of simple machines and see how many we can spy at home!



BIG QUESTION

What types of simple machines are there? What do they do?

REVIEW

Review the 6 simple machines.



Can you think of any **simple** or **complex** machines in your home?

Consider:
How do they help you in your daily life?

I SPY...

Go on a scavenger hunt and see how many simple machines you can spy with your little eye!

Bring your handout and/or a camera.



When you see something in your home with a simple machine, draw the object and/or take a photo.

Review simple machines on the next page.



BONUS QUESTIONS!

What complex machines can we spy?
What simple machines make up those complex machines?



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WHAT ARE THE 6 SIMPLE MACHINES?



INCLINED PLANE: EASY LIFTING

An even sloping surface
Example: ramp, slide



WEDGE: SPLIT & SEPARATE

Used to separate / hold devices
Example: axe blade, door stop, teeth



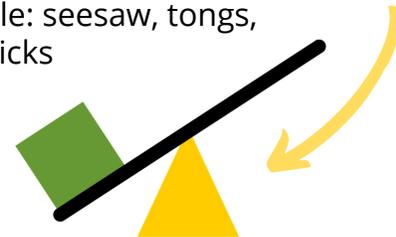
SCREW: FASTEN & MOVE

Imagine an inclined plane wrapped around a cylinder
Example: screw, lightbulb, jar lid



LEVER: MULTIPLY FORCE

Arm that pivots against a fulcrum
Example: seesaw, tongs, chopsticks



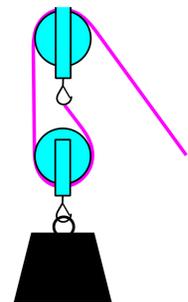
WHEEL & AXLE: ROLLING

Large wheel secured to a smaller shaft (axle)
Example: play wagon, pinwheel, doorknob, rolling pin



PULLEY: HOIST HEAVY LOADS

Rope/cord in the wheel's rim, helps lift or move objects
Example: flagpole, gear train on a bike





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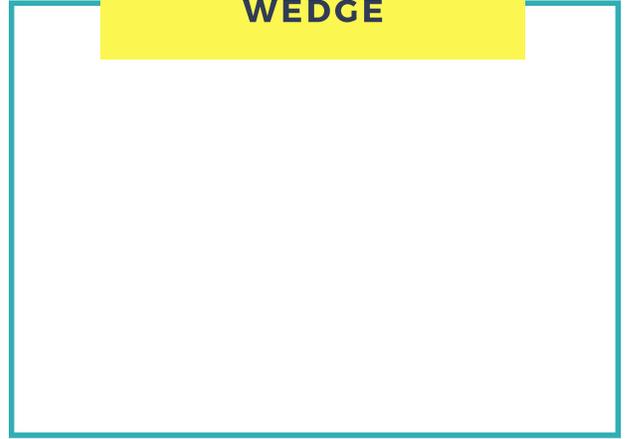
DRAW THE MACHINES YOU SEE IN THE BOXES BELOW.



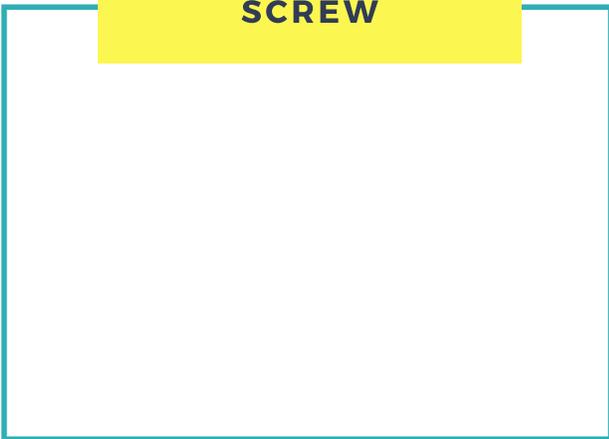
INCLINED PLANE



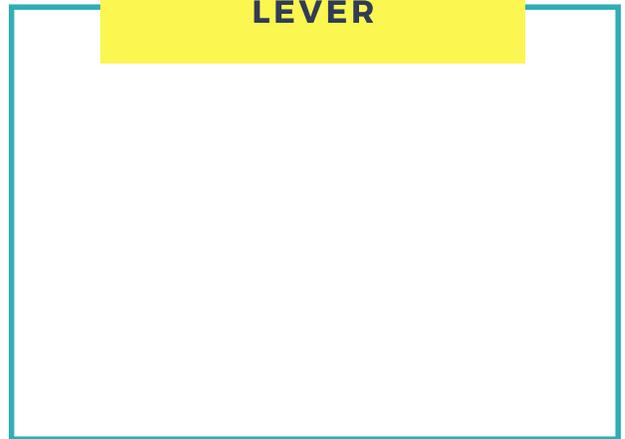
WEDGE



SCREW



LEVER



WHEEL & AXLE



PULLEY

