

Simple Machines in Daily Life

Chapter 7: How Things Work · Topic 1

Key Concept

A lever, like a seesaw or a crowbar, helps us lift heavy objects with less effort by pivoting around a fixed point.

A wheel and axle, like on a bicycle or cart, helps things move more easily by reducing friction with the ground.

A pulley, used in wells or cranes, helps lift objects by changing the direction of the force we apply, making lifting easier.

An inclined plane, like a ramp, makes it easier to move objects to a higher place by spreading the work over a longer distance.

Quick Revision Notes

- A lever helps lift heavy objects with less effort.
- A seesaw and crowbar are examples of levers.
- A wheel and axle helps things move easily.
- A pulley changes the direction of force to help lift objects.
- Wells and cranes use pulleys.
- An inclined plane (ramp) makes moving objects easier.
- Simple machines make daily work easier.
- Simple machines reduce the effort needed for tasks.

Practice Questions

- 1 Find a lever, wheel, pulley or inclined plane at home.
- 2 Try using a seesaw and explain how it works as a lever.
- 3 Discuss how a ramp makes moving objects easier.
- 4 Research how a pulley is used in a well.
- 5 Draw a simple machine and label its parts.
- 6 Explain why simple machines make work easier.