

Max's Machine Lab: Levers and Pulleys

Learning objective: To identify and describe how levers and pulleys help us lift and move objects easily.

Hello! Max the monkey needs help with his inventions. Use this experiment record to think about how levers and pulleys work. Look at the pictures in your classroom or think about the playground. Write your ideas in the boxes below.

Word bank: lever · pulley · pivot · load · effort · rope · wheel · lift · force

1. What is a lever? Explain how it uses a pivot to help us move something heavy. (2 marks)

2. Think of a pulley. How does using a rope and a wheel make it easier to lift a load? (2 marks)

3. Where have you seen a lever or a pulley? Describe one example from your school or home. (2 marks)

4. Why do we use these simple machines? Complete this sentence: We use levers and pulleys to make work feel _____ because they help us use less _____. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you draw a simple lever with a label pointing to the pivot? Think about where the effort goes.