

Simple Machines

3rd Grade

Six machines that make work easier, and where you have used each one.

A simple machine does not reduce the work. It changes the direction or the size of the force you need.

Machine	What it does	Where you see it
Lever	turns on a pivot	seesaw, scissors, spoon
Wheel and axle	rolls instead of drags	car, door handle
Pulley	changes the direction of a pull	flagpole, blinds
Inclined plane	a gentler slope up	ramp, hill road
Wedge	splits things apart	knife, axe, teeth
Screw	a ramp wrapped round	bolt, jar lid, drill

Scissors are two levers with two wedges attached. Most tools are combinations.