# Week 30 - SCIENCE NOTE PAGE <br> Simple Machines 

## What is a Machine?



- Remember, $\underline{\text { WORK }}$ is applying a force to move an object over a distance. ... W=Fd (Force x distance)
- A machine is a device that changes the force used to do a given amount of work, and the distance over which the force is applied.
- Machines do not decrease the amount of work that needs to be done; they just make the work easier.
- A machine can change the strength or direction of a force.
- To decrease the amount of force required to do work, you can increase the distance over which the force must be applied.


## Simple Machines

- A simple machine is a machine that makes work easier when a single force is applied.
- Simple machines cannot do work by themselves; energy must be applied to the machine.


## Input and Output Forces

- Input Force - the amount of force applied to a simple machine
- Machines "magnify" the input force resulting in a greater output force
- Output Force - the amount of force a simple machine applies to an object
- The work applied to a simple machine is always equal to the work the simple machine applies to the object.


## Six Simple Machines

1. Lever - a bar balanced on a fulcrum, or pivot point; used to help move or lift objects

- Levers can change the direction (up/down) or strength of a force
- Fulcrum - the pivot point of a lever; where the bar balances or moves up or down

- Examples: see-saw, shovel, crowbar, rake, broom, fork, hammer

2. Inclined Plane - a flat surface (plane) set at an angle (inclined); used to reduce the force needed to lift or lower things by lengthening the distance

- Inclined Planes change the strength of a force

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- Examples: ramp, sliding board, ladder, steps

3. Screw - an inclined plane wrapped around a post; the screw converts rotational force into linear force

- Screws change the direction of the force
- Examples: screw, drill bits, lid on a jar, meat grinder


[^0]4. Wedge - a two-sided inclined plane used to separate; the wedge converts downward input force into sideways output force

- Wedges change the direction of a force
- Examples: axe, knives, chisels, teeth, door stop

5. Wheel \& Axle - two cylinders of different sizes-the larger is the wheel,
 and the smaller is the axle-connected so that force applied to one causes the other to turn; used to reduce the amount of force needed to rotate or move an object

- Wheel \& Axles change strength of a force
- Examples: Ferris wheel, electric fan, door knob, steering wheel of a car


6. Pulley - a grooved wheel in a fixed location that keeps a rope or cable in place as it moves through it; used to lift objects by changing the direction of the force

- Pulleys change direction or strength of a force
- Examples: rope system on a flag pole, loading cargo onto a ship



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