Simple Machines

What is a Machine?

- **Remember**, <u>WORK</u> is applying a force to move an object over a distance. ... *W*=Fd (Force x distance)
- A machine is a device that changes the <u>force</u> used to do a given amount of work, and the <u>distance</u> over which the force is applied.
 - Machines do **not** decrease the amount of work that needs to be done; they just <u>make the work</u> <u>easier</u>.
- A machine can <u>change</u> the strength or direction <u>of a force</u>.
 - 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 <u>makes work easier</u> when a <u>single</u> force is applied.
 - Simple machines cannot do work by themselves; <u>energy</u> must be applied to the machine.

Input and Output Forces

- Input Force the amount of force applied <u>to</u> 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 <u>object</u>
 - The work applied to a simple machine is always <u>equal</u> 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
 - <u>Fulcrum</u> 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 <u>distance</u>
 - Inclined Planes change the strength of a force
 - $\,\circ\,$ The longer the incline the less force is required to move an object upward
 - 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













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: 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

- 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





