

Simple Machines- Wheel and Axle

Wheel and Axle

A wheel and axle uses a wheel with a rod attached in the middle as an axle to help it to lift or move loads.

In some cases this machine works like a lever to multiply force (like a doorknob or a fishing reel).

In other cases it is used to move objects easier such like the wheels on a bicycle.

Activity: You will need two toy cars for this activity. Push one toy car on its side and another on its wheels. Then, write down the difference in distance traveled.

After you test out the cars on their wheels and sides, answer these questions:

1. Is it easier to push the car on its side or on its wheels? What way went the farthest distance?
2. Why was it easier for one of the ways rather than the other? How does this relate to wheels and axles?

