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The Kids' Book Of Simple Machines: Cool Projects & Activities That Make Science Fun!



Synopsis

Wheel and axle, wedge, and screw. Lever and pulley and inclined plane, too! Learning about the six simple machines has never been more fun! Through exciting science projects and activities kids can easily do at home or school, tomorrow's scientists and engineers will have a blast learning about simple machines and how they make daily life easier. This book is the perfect STEM companion for curious minds at home or in the classroom. Book includes: biographical spotlights on famous scientists and inventors; introduction to each simple machine, including real-world examples & history; materials & tools list; infographics; step-by-step instructions and photos; safety information; timeline; glossary; and index

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

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Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

Customer Reviews

I've seen students study simple machines in the past, from the youngest to the oldest at my school (K-8), and to support them, I've scrambled to find many resources that would help them in a discovery process. There needed to be some explanation, a gathering of materials, and then the fun work of experimenting, trying all sorts of ways to try to learn how each kind of machine works. We did do it, but how I wish I had had this wonderful book by Kelly Doudna to help the students learn! Kelly introduces the six simple machines with good basic examples in words and

pictures first. For example, a young girl pours her breakfast cereal from a container; it's an inclined plane. And that, along with the other machines' examples, shows what they REALLY DO. Each one, when used, gives a mechanical advantage, an important first vocabulary term. The introduction also introduces Archimedes, and like a few other background pages throughout the exercises, it shows a picture, the time period in which he lived, some of what he studied, and a famous quote. Early in the book there is also a visual list of all the common household items needed in order to do the experiments. It will be helpful to those preparing to experiment. Each machine is thoroughly introduced, and includes what is termed a "Spotlight" (the first picture) which is a real-life example of one of the machines. For example, an airplane's propeller is shown and defined as a screw, which is an inclined plane wrapped around a core. And the ferris wheel (picture above) is introduced in the section about the wheel and axle. Each "Spotlight" offers history along with pictured explanations of the example. My favorite explains the pinball machine!

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