Gadget Research

(Teacher note: Save this page as a key. Then, it can be used as an assignment sheet by deleting the sample responses.)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Simple Machine			
LEVER	INCLINED PLANE	WHEEL AND AXLE	
A lever is an arm that turns against a point (fulcrum). There are three classes of levers. You can tell what kind, depending on the position of the fulcrum.	A straight, slanted surface allows a load to be moved over a longer distance, so less force is required.	A wheel is fixed to a shaft or axle, and they move together. Sometimes, the wheel has a crank or handle.	

Example Picture or Diagram







Roller Coaster

Windmill

Citation

Edheads: Activate Your

Mind

http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines/

Mikids: Simple Machines

http://mikids.com/Smachines.htm

Simple Machine		
WEDGE	SCREW	PULLEY
A wedge turns an inclined plane down and uses it to push things apart. A wedge is basically two inclined planes set back-to-back.	A screw works by moving a load across a spiraling inclined plane. The screw on a piano stool lets the seat go up or down. Often a lever, like a screwdriver, works to give force to the screw.	In a pulley, a cord moves up or down easily over a wheel. If you attach something to the cord, it can be moved up or down. With a pulley, you trade force for distance, making work easier.
Example Picture or Diagram		
Axe	Archimedes' Water Screw	Flagpole
Citation		
The Franklin Institute: Online Simple Machines	Edheads: Activate your Mind http://edheads.org/activities	Franklin Institute Online: Simple Machines
http://sln.fi.edu/qa97/spotli ght3/spotlight3.html	/simple-machines	http://sln.fi.edu/qa97/spotlig ht3/spotlight3.html