

Augusta Canal National Heritage Area
Grade 4 Force and Motion/Simple Machine
Vocabulary

Force-	Force is the push or pull of an object.
Gravity-	A natural force that pulls all objects toward the center of the earth.
Simple Machine-	A simple machine is a machine with few or no moving parts. Simple machines make work easier to perform by: transferring a force from one place to another, changing the direction of a force, increasing the magnitude of a force, or increasing the distance or speed of a force.
Pulley-	a grooved wheel around which is wrapped a rope, chain, or cable
Inclined Plane-	A sloping surface, such as a ramp. An inclined plane can be used to alter the effort and distance involved in doing work, such as lifting loads. The trade-off is that an object must be moved a longer distance than if it was lifted straight up, but less force is needed.
Wheel & Axle-	The wheel and axle is a simple machine. The axle is a rod that goes through the wheel which allows the wheel to turn. Gears are a form of wheels and axles
Screw-	A screw is an inclined plane wrapped around a shaft or cylinder. The inclined plane allows the screw to move itself when rotated.
Wedge-	Two inclined planes joined back to back. Wedges are used to split things.
Lever-	A lever is a simple machine consisting of a rigid bar pivoted on a fixed point and used to transmit force, as in raising or moving a weight at one end by pushing down on the other.
Turbine	A device that converts the kinetic energy of a moving fluid (gas or liquid) into electrical energy
Energy	-The ability to do work
Generator	machine that changes mechanical energy into electrical energy