

Simple machines: ramps and levers

energy-forces

What you need: smooth stiff board or firm clipboard (ramp surface) · light or medium hardback books, or exercise books (load and to raise the ramp gently) · wooden 30 cm ruler or stiff paint-stirrer · thick marker pen or triangular eraser (rest for the lever) · plain paper or Investigation Journal page

Words to use

Ramp · Lever · Effort · Simple machine

Our question

How does lifting with a ramp or a lever compare with lifting straight up?

I predict...because...

What we found out

Draw and label what you see

Labels I used

Which of the three ways felt easiest?

What did we keep the same so the comparison was fair?

How did the ramp or lever help a small force do a big job?
