

## Lesson Plan

### Understanding Levers

**Book:** *Levers All Around*

**Series:** Using Simple Machines

**Level:** Pioneer

### Objective

To help students work as groups to recall key details about levers.

### Supplies

- *Levers All Around* book
- Paper and pencils

### Before the Activity

Read *Levers All Around* out loud as a class.

### Activity

Divide the students into three teams: the Beam Team, the Fulcrum Team, and the Load Team. Give each team a sheet of paper, and ask students to write the numbers one through seven down the left side. Team members will work together to answer seven questions about levers.

Explain that you will reach each question out loud. Then you will read four answer choices. Members of each team should work together to figure out which letter is the correct answer. Students should write this letter next to the number on their paper. Use the following list of questions. The correct answers appear in bold.

1. What is added to the lever that helps move a load?
  - a) wind
  - b) light
  - c) force**
  - d) electricity
  
2. What are the two main parts of a lever?
  - a) a wheel and an axle
  - b) a beam and a fulcrum**
  - c) a bat and a ball
  - d) a paper and a pencil

3. What parts of our bodies are fulcrums?
- a) mouth and tongue
  - b) knees and elbows**
  - c) eyes and ears
  - d) heart and lungs
4. Which of the following is *not* a reason people use levers?
- a) to move fast**
  - b) to lift loads
  - c) to hit or break things
  - d) to hold things together
5. What playground equipment is a lever?
- a) the swings
  - b) the slide
  - c) the merry-go-round
  - d) the seesaw**
6. What sports equipment is a lever?
- a) a basketball hoop
  - b) a hockey puck
  - c) a football
  - d) a baseball bat**
7. What kind of lever was used in wars many years ago?
- a) a catapult**
  - b) a tank
  - c) a bow and arrow
  - d) a shield

### **Evaluation**

After you have read all seven questions, go back through the list and reveal the correct answers. As you do, each group should keep track of its score. The group with the most correct answers wins.

### **Standards**

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1).