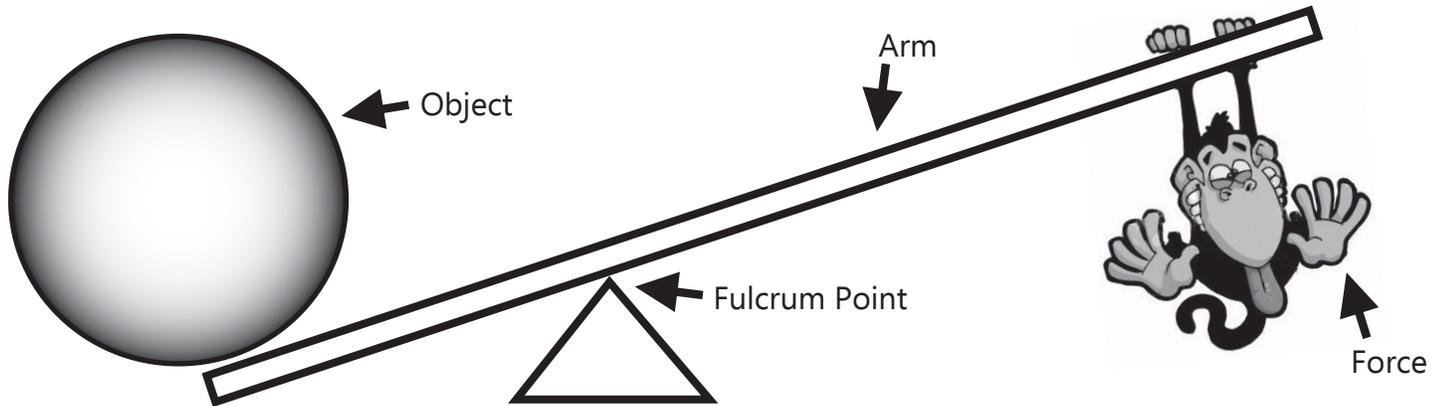


LEVERS AND CATAPULTS : LEVERS : LESSON

What are they?

Levers are used in everyday life. Sometimes we don't even notice them! Some examples of levers are a teeter-totter, light switch, and gear shift lever in a car. Most levers help us do work, and many times they make the job easier.

For Example: If we were trying to move a heavy boulder, we can design a lever system to help move it.



All levers must have:

1. A Fulcrum Point - This is the part that the arm rotates around. It is also known as a pivot point.
2. An Arm - Usually the longest part of the lever system and where force is applied.

How to use a lever

Force (push or pull) is applied to some part of the arm in order to move an object or activate something.

Types of levers

There are three different types of levers and they are split up into classes. What distinguishes them apart is where force is applied and where the fulcrum point is located.

Class 1

Examples:

- Teeter-totter
- Scissors
- Oars on a rowboat

Class 2

Examples:

- Wheel Barrow
- Crowbar
- Nut Cracker

Class 3

Examples:

- Tweezers
- Fishing Pole
- Human Arm (elbow is the fulcrum)