

Today in



we learned all about...

Machines



- We discovered that there are six different kinds of simple machines, and that they all help make tasks easier.
- We learned that some examples of simple machines include hammers, forks, wheels, tweezers, scissors, teeter totters, screws and wheelbarrows.
- We experimented with catapults using spoons and Koosh balls.
- We learned that a screw is a useful tool for holding things together.
- We experimented with wedges and found out that they can be used to push two objects apart.
- We rigged a pulley device and learned that pulleys can make lifting things a lot easier.
- We made our own Mad Science Rocket Racer so that we could learn more about how wheel and axles work together to get things moving.



LET'S TRY THIS AT HOME!



Test Your Rocket Racer

You Need: Your *Mad Science Rocket Racer*, three books, one piece of cardboard, and a ruler.

- 1 Stack your books on top of each other.
- 2 Prop the cardboard against the books to create a slope.
- 3 Wind the propeller counterclockwise 100 times. Release it and measure how far it travels.
- 4 Wind the propeller 100 times. Release your racer from the top of the ramp. Measure how far it travels. Compare the two distances.

Explanation: Your Mad Science Rocket Racer uses kinetic energy produced through the winding of the rubber band and propeller to move. Experiment with the design of your racer to make it move faster and further. If you added another rubber band, wound it 200 times or if you shortened it, how would it change the racer's performance?



ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER MAD SCIENCE PROGRAMS: Mad Science offers a broad range of Workshops, After-School Programs, Special Events, Assemblies, Vacation and Summer Programs, and of course, Birthday Parties!