

# Gears/Simple Machines Lesson Plan



## Summary

**Content Area** Science/STEM

**Grade Level** Grade 1/2

**Topic / Unit of Study** Mechanical functions, how gears and simple machines can work.

**Objective** Students will be able to:

- Explain what a gear is and how it works
- Give examples of everyday items that use gears
- Recognize that physical concepts are often predictable, logical, and repeatable

**Duration** 60 Minutes

## Implementation

- Materials**
- [Playground Gears Panel](#)
  - KWL Sheet

### Instruction

1. Ask students to fill out “know” and “want to know” sections of a KWL chart.
2. Gather children around the playground gear panel.
3. Ask students to explain a gear and how it moves. Discuss uses for gears in everyday life.
4. Have students verbalize predictions about the relationship between gear size and speed.
5. Demonstrate moving a gear and ask for observations.
6. Allow students to experiment with moving different gears at different speeds and making observations.
7. Discuss why gears may be used in different contexts (bicycles, analog clocks, etc).
8. Return to the classroom and fill out “learned” section of KWL chart

## Assessment

1. Students will verbalize and write observations about the movement of a gear and how it works.
2. Students will verbalize and write examples of gears and their functions.
3. Students will verbalize and write the relationship between gear size and speed