

Gears/Simple Machines Lesson Plan



Summary

Content Area Science/STEM

Grade Level Pre-K/K4/K5

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

Objective Students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of comparison words (bigger, smaller, higher, lower, faster, slower)
- Practice turn-taking and following single-step directions
- Demonstrate curiosity and ask simple questions about objects and movement
- Observe and recognize cause and effect regarding motion of object

Duration 30 Minutes

Implementation

Materials • [Playground Gears Panel](#)

Instruction

1. Gather children around the gear panel.
2. Assess prior knowledge by asking students if they know what a “gear” is called and how it moves.
3. Ask students to predict what will happen when one gear moves.
4. Demonstrate moving a gear and ask for observations.
5. Have students take turns experimenting with moving the gears and observing the effect.
6. Direct students to spin the “smaller” gear and watch what happens to the “bigger” gear. Ask children to observe which gears move “faster” and “slower.”
7. Ask students to verbalize their observations of cause and effect.

Assessment

1. Students will demonstrate knowledge of two or more comparison words.
2. Students will correctly follow single-step directions.
3. Students will verbally recognize the motion of one gear causes the motion of another.