



Explorers-Mechanisms and Wheels

DT



Year 2 Spring Term 1

Key Vocabulary

Wheels and axles are mechanisms that help things to move.

Wheel	Wheels are circular objects that roll on the ground helping vehicles and other objects to easily move.
Axle	a rod on which one or more wheels can rotate, either freely or be fixed to and turn with the axle.
Axle holder	the component through which an axle fits and rotates.
Chassis	the frame or base on which a vehicle is built.
Friction	resistance which is encountered when two things rub together.
Dowel	wooden rods used for making axles to hold wheels.

Examples of wheels in everyday life



EXAMPLE MECHANISMS

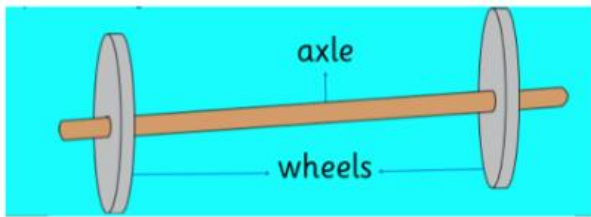
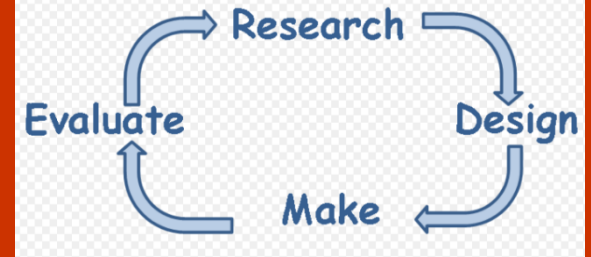
Toy cars and real cars use mechanisms to move. On a toy car the wheel is usually fixed to the axle, which means the wheel and axle will spin. If there is too much friction on the axle it will not move.



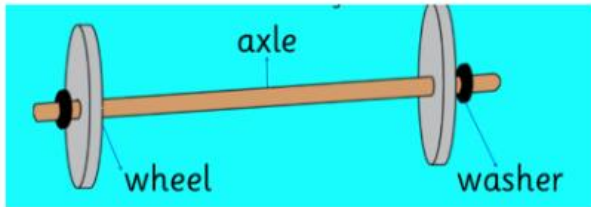
Can you name any more examples?



Roller skates have four wheels. Often the wheels rotate free from the axles but sometimes they can be attached too.



Axles are attached firmly to the wheel so the axle rotates and the wheels turn with it.



The wheels are placed loosely on the axle so that the wheels turn around the axle. If the wheels are not attached to the axle, you need to use something to stop the wheels from falling off.

Ideas for axles- think about what you could use.

