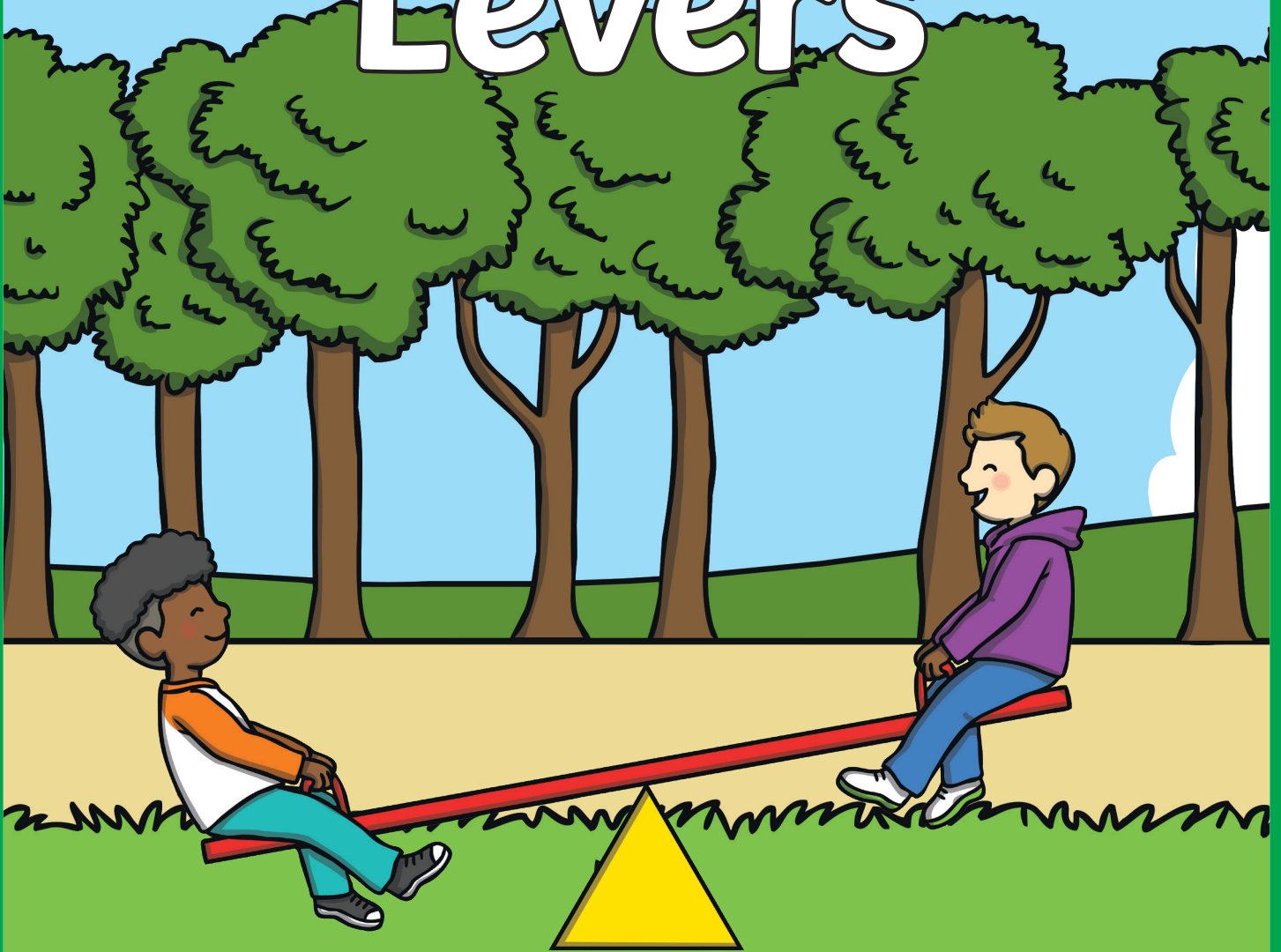


Levers

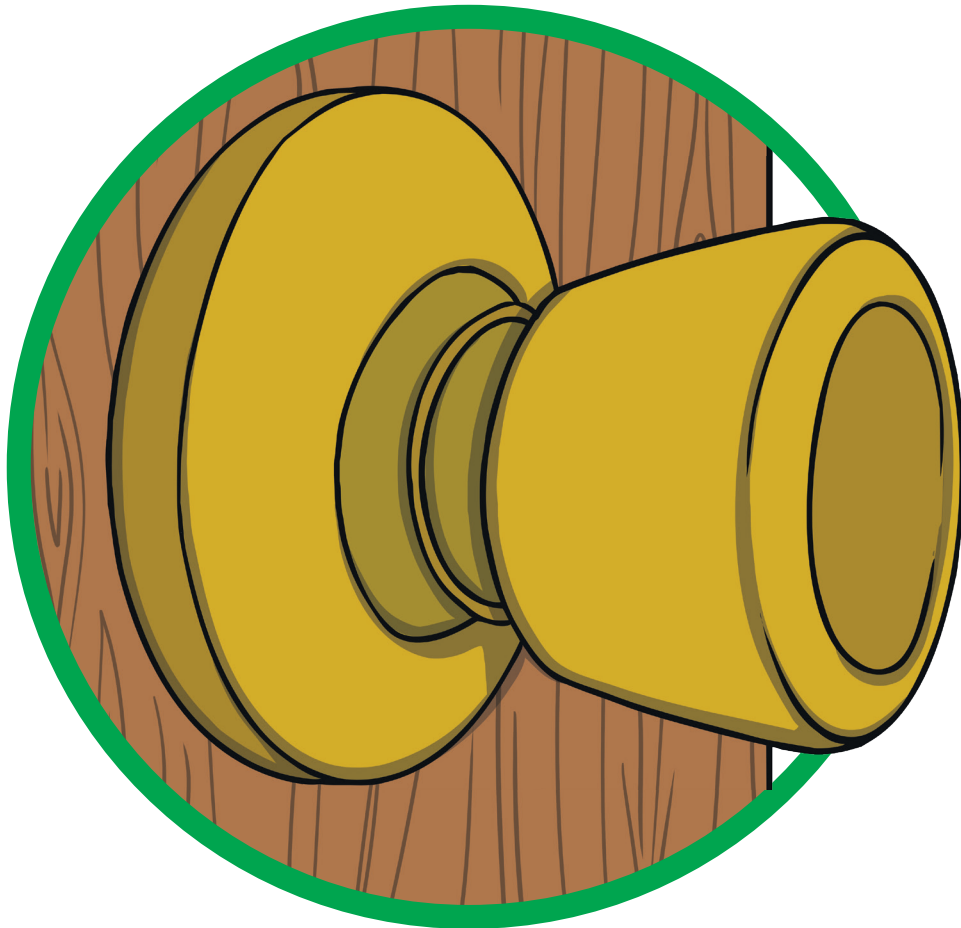


Levers are everywhere in our daily life and examples include:

- see-saw;
- oars;
- wheelbarrows;
- scissors.

A lever has four important parts: the bar, the fulcrum, the effort and the load.

Wheel and Axle

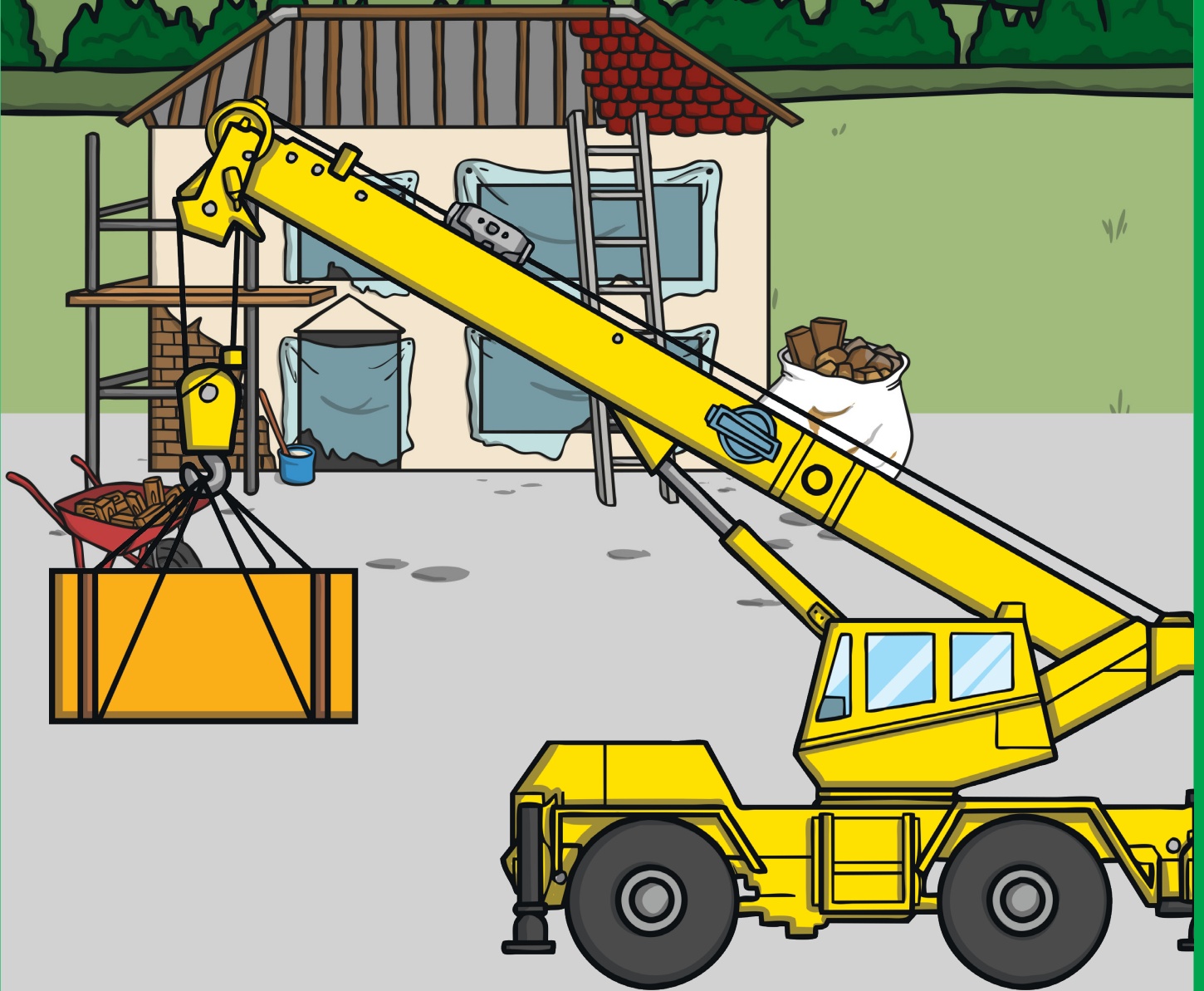


This type of simple machine is the most common.

Wheels cannot work without axles.

Force is used to turn the wheel, which then causes the axle to turn. Examples of wheels and axles being used in everyday life include screwdrivers, skateboards and doorknobs.

Pulley

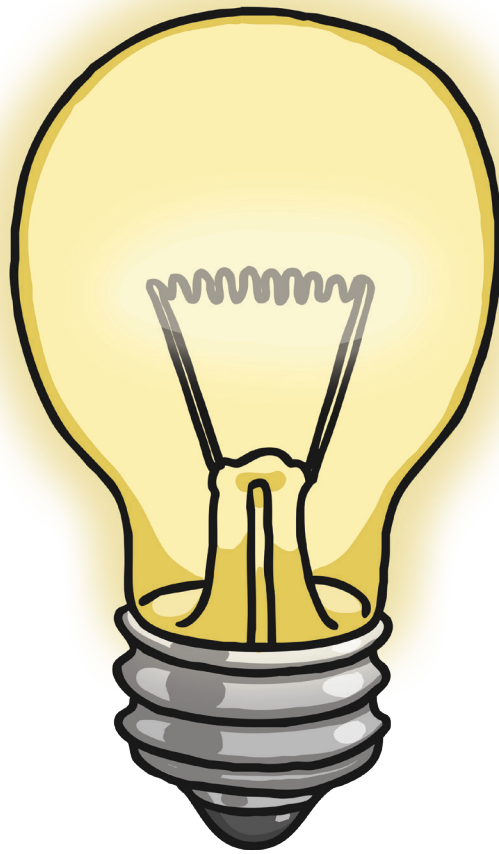


A pulley is a rope or chain with a wheel and axle attached.

Using a pulley means that heavy loads can be lifted without much effort.

Examples of objects that use pulleys include lifts, cranes and wells.

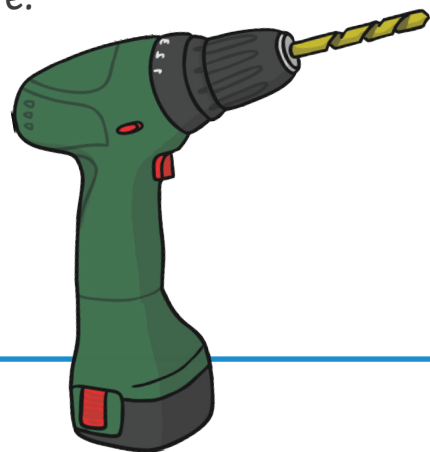
Screw



A simple machine that uses a screw allows something to move from a lower position to a higher position by moving it in a circle.

Examples of screws in everyday life are:

- a jar lid;
- a tap;
- a drill;
- the end of a lightbulb.



Inclined Plane

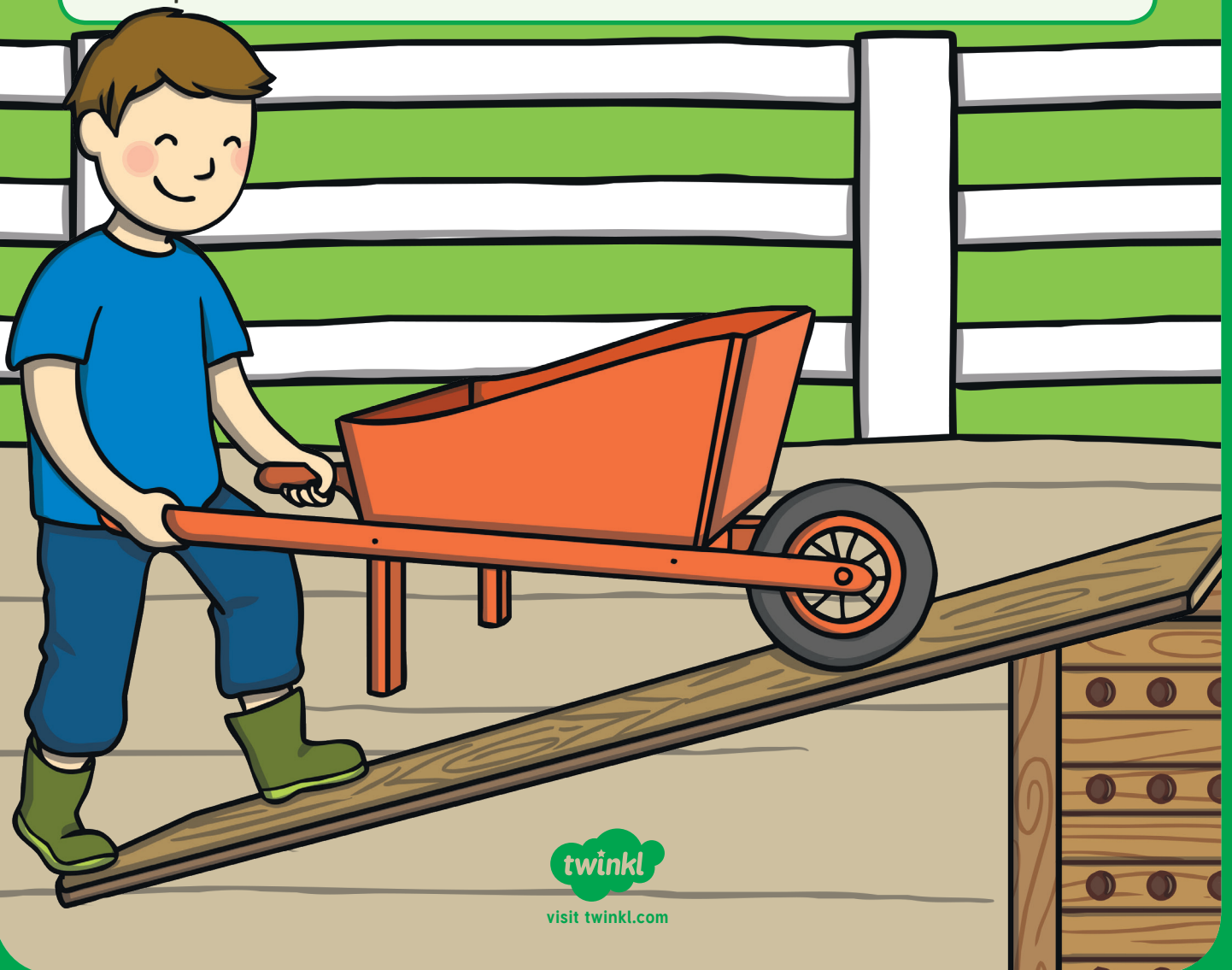
Some simple mechanisms use an inclined plane.

Inclined means sloping.

On an inclined plane, one end is lower than the other end. This allows things to travel from the higher end to the lower end, or vice versa, with little effort.

There are inclined planes all around us, such as:

- slides;
- ladders;
- ramps.



Wedge

A wedge can be used to separate an object. It is usually triangular shaped.

An example of this is an axe, which is two inclined planes.

Wedges can also hold things together and stop them from moving.

Example include:

- staples;
- nails;
- doorstops.

