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| **Lever**  This is a rigid device made from wood or metal. It pivots on a point (or fulcrum) and applies a force to an object (the load) at a second point when a different force (effort) is applied at a third point. |  | **Pulley**  This mechanism has one or more wheels that are connected together with a rope, cable, chain or belt. It turns when one end of the line is pulled and can change the direction of a force. |
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| **Pivot**  An object can rest, turn, balance or spin on this point. It can also be called a fulcrum and is seen in different types of levers. |  | **Tipping Point**  This is a critical factor in the operation of certain levers or devices. It is the moment, or point when an action or process can no longer be stopped. |

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| **Cam**  This is a type of mechanism. It can be made of wood or metal. It is fixed to a drive shaft that gives it circular movement. Its irregular shape affects the speed it moves at, the pathway it follows and its action on other components. |  | **Gear**  This is a mechanism made of two or more disks or wheels with teeth that engage with each other. It can slow down or speed up movement. Once activated its action is continuous. |