You need a ruler, 3 pennies, and a square eraser to perform this investigation. Balance the ruler on the eraser so that neither end of the ruler is touching the table. Put a penny on one end of the ruler. What happens? How can you make the ruler balance again without taking the penny off? Put 2 pennies on one end and 1 penny on the other end. Does the ruler balance? How can you make it balance?

A lever is a simple machine used to lift or move objects. The arm or bar is the part that moves. The fulcrum supports the arm, but does not move. The load is the object that is being moved or lifted. The force is applied to the lever to make the object move. Label the parts of the lever below. Use the words bar, fulcrum, load, and force.

Levers help us in many ways. Write a paragraph telling about some levers you use every day. Tell how they make your work easier. (Remember, some examples of levers are seesaws, crowbars, scissors, pliers, wheelbarrows, nut crackers, shovels, brooms, and tweezers.)
Week 6, Day 4  Use what you have learned about levers to answer the questions below.

1. Which of these are examples of levers?
   - A girl flying a kite
   - A pair of scissors cutting a piece of paper
   - A wheelbarrow carrying a load of dirt
   - A batter hitting a baseball

2. A lever can be used to lift a heavy rock. Which unit could be used to measure the weight of the rock? Mark your answer.
   - meter
   - liter
   - kilogram
   - hour

Week 6, Day 5  Christopher gave Ryan a rectangular wooden block, a wooden ruler, and a heavy book. He told Ryan to lift the book without using his hands. What simple machine could Ryan make to help him lift the heavy book, using only the ruler and the wooden block? ____________

Use a ruler and a block to lift a book yourself. How did you do it? Draw a picture to show how you did it.