SIMPLE MACHINES PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES



PULLEY

A **pulley** is a simple machine with one or more grooved wheels connected by a rope.

MATERIALS

- Two brooms
- Long piece of rope or twine

STEPS



1) Have two students hold two brooms handles apart about 2-3 feet from each other.



3) Have another student hold the free end of the rope.



2) Attach one end of the rope to one broom handle, thread it around the other broom handle, and back again, making a Z shape.



4) Have the student holding the rope pull on the rope, while the other students hold onto the broom sticks. Observe what is happening. Is it easy or hard? Does it remind them of anything?

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

The brooms are acting like a pulley. The student holding onto the loose rope is acting like you would if pulling on a rope threaded through a pulley.