

Let's Get Geared Up!

Activity Overview

When your students visit LEGOLAND® Discovery Center, they will be experimenting with different gears and creating a spinning top. To get your students geared up for their field trip, we recommend a brainstorm race, which is a great way to gauge their understanding of a topic and to get them energized about what's to come. During this activity, students race to brainstorm and list as many machines that use gears as they can in a certain amount of time!

Setting the Scene

Gears are in many things that you see and use every day. Gears can make things move. Gears can speed things up or slow things down. Gears have teeth. The teeth mesh with the teeth of other gears.

Show the students pictures of gears and draw two gears whose teeth are meshed together for them on the board.

Instructions

For this activity, ask your students to think of machines that use gears to make things move. They will have five minutes (or however long works best for your class) to brainstorm and create a list of as many geared machines as they can come up with.

Keep a running list of correct answers on the board and take the opportunity to correct and talk through any mistakes the teams might suggest. To add extra interest, set a classroom goal for a set number of machines to be listed in a specific time period.

Grades:
K-1

Activity Time:
20-30 minutes

