Read the text below. Then, fill in the blanks on the next page.

Machines are tools that make work easier. A lever is a simple machine. It helps to lift or move a heavy thing. People, and even some animals, use levers all the time. A lever can be made by resting a stick on a rock. It is a lot easier to push down than to lift up. A lever lets us lift something UP by pushing DOWN. Take a look at this diagram:

You may have seen a lever at the playground. Seesaws work best when the load is about even on both sides. What happens if one person hops off while their side is down? How could kids lift an adult? Try experimenting with this lever the next time you go to the park!
1. The diagram shows how a _________________ works.

2. The _________________ is the thing you want to move.

3. Even some _________________ have learned to use levers.

4. A _________________ is a lever you might see on a playground.

5. A lever lets us lift something up by pushing _________________.

6. A lever is a type of _________________.

7. In this diagram, a person _________________ down to work the lever.

8. You can make a lever using a stick and a _________________ as the fulcrum.

9. When you push down on a lever, you apply _________________.

10. The lever turns around a point called the _________________.

11. In this diagram, the load will _________________.

12. Seesaws work best when the load on each side is _________________.

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**Answer Key**

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<tr>
<th>animals</th>
<th>go up</th>
<th>even</th>
<th>rock</th>
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