

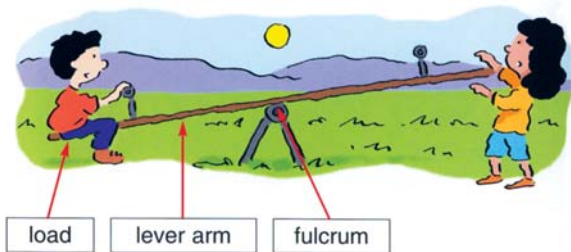
The Parts of a Lever

A lever has two parts. One part of the lever is a strong bar. This is called the **lever arm**.

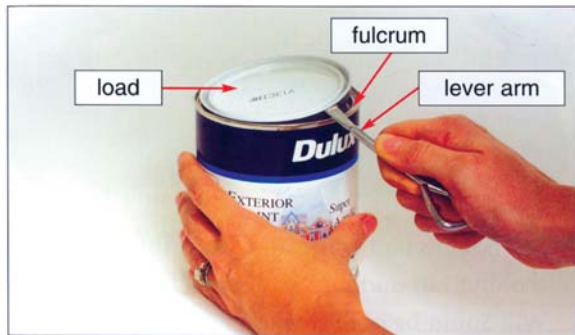
The other part of the lever is where the bar rests or sits. This is called the **fulcrum**. The fulcrum lets the lever arm move or turn.

The object that is being moved by the lever is called the **load**.

One lever that you've probably seen is the seesaw. Look at the diagram to find each part of the seesaw lever.



Sonia used a lever to open the paint can. This labeled photograph shows each part of her lever at work.



Sonia used her muscles to make the simple machine work. The lever let her lift the lid that was sealed tight on the can. When she pushed down on the lever, the lever turned her pushing force into a strong lifting force. The can opened!