

# HOW TO USE AN INCLINED PLANE ALL OVER YOUR CLASSROOM!

## **Inclined planes are not just about Science and Engineering.**

Inclined planes can be taught in history, social studies, math, visual art, literacy, and even physical education! The idea of an inclined plane is one that can be spread from one subject to the next with little pre-planning.

## **Elementary Grades**

### **➤ Physical Education:**

Have students use inclined planes or ramps to score points in Ramp Soccer. Have students strategically place a ramp in a gymnasium, from varying distances, and see if they can let the ball drop down the incline plane and into their opponents net. Students will need to determine how much or how little force they will need to use to score on their opponents.

### **➤ History:**

Students can research ancient civilizations using the theme of the inclined plane. Turn the inclined plane into a historical tool by having students study ancient Egyptian pyramids, Stonehenge, and medieval times. Students can write about how an inclined plane was used by a particular civilization and how it helped them.

### **➤ Social Studies:**

Have students find inclined planes in their community. Ask them to search for and record inclined planes at home, school and in their community. Students can record what the inclined plane is used for and how it makes their lives easier.

### **➤ Mathematics:**

Use inclined planes as an intro to geometry. One of the best examples for this would be to use an inclined plane to explain angles, perimeter and area. Use an inclined plane to discuss the angles of a triangle.

### **➤ Visual Art:**

Cut out a number of inclined planes or right triangles out of construction paper in different sizes. Students can glue the construction paper inclined planes onto a large sheet of paper to design images of monsters, people, machines or robots. Students can only use the inclined planes to design their images.

### **➤ Literacy:**

Have the students write a story about a world without inclined planes. Have them investigate, in writing, how simple tasks would become much harder without the use of inclined planes.