

Simple Machines Lesson Extension: Rube Goldberg

Procedure:

1. Instructor will ask students if they know who Rube Goldberg was.
2. Instructor will explain that Rube Goldberg was An American cartoonist who would draw inventions that used simple machines to complete simple tasks.
3. Instructor will show students Rube Goldberg comic strips and ask them to identify the simple machines.
4. Instructor will show students 3 Rube Goldberg machines videos and have them search for simple machines in the videos using the checklist below. The instructor can replay each video for students to have a second opportunity to search for simple machines.
5. Instructor will review the Rube Goldberg Simple Machines checklist with the students.

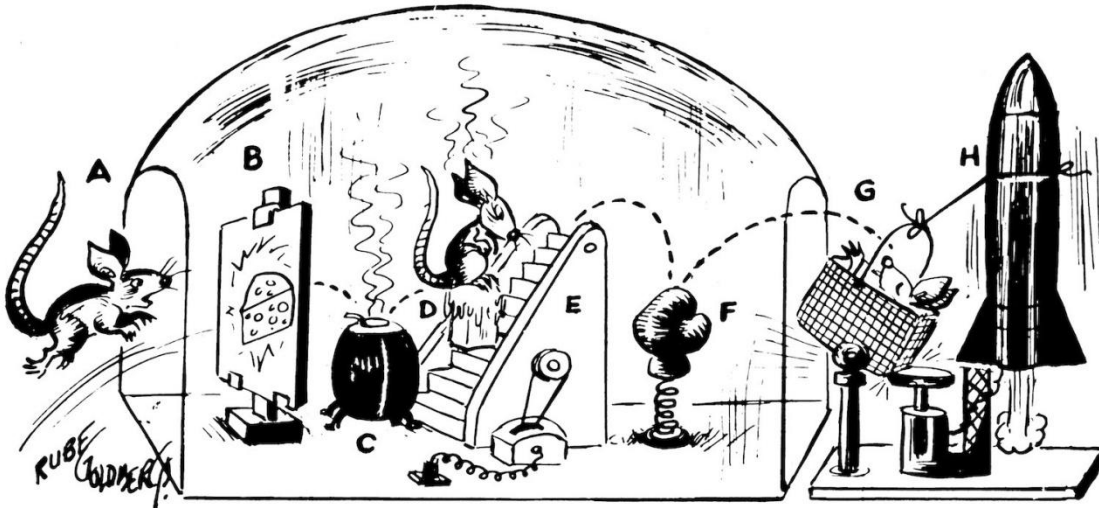
Photo of Rube Goldberg



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services

Comic Strips:

How to Get Rid of a Mouse

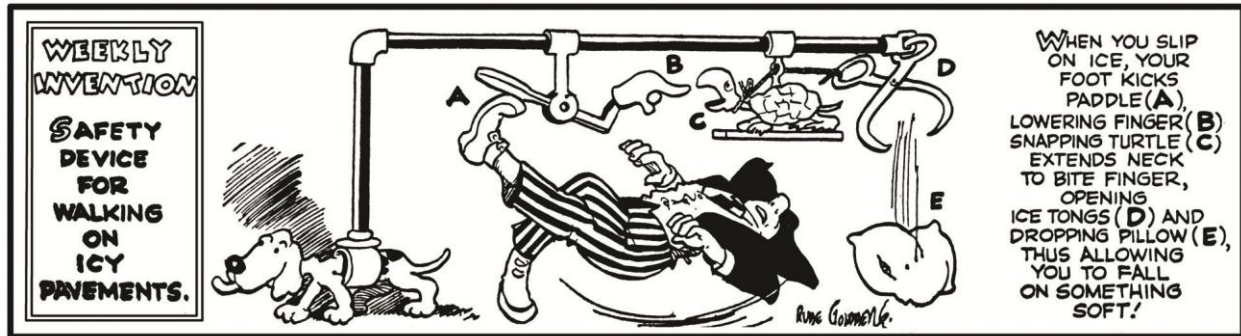


Drawn for *Newsweek* by Rube Goldberg

The best mousetrap by Rube Goldberg: Mouse (A) dives for painting of cheese (B), goes through canvas and lands on hot stove (C). He jumps on cake of ice (D)

to cool off. Moving escalator (E) drops him on boxing glove (F) which knocks him into basket (G) setting off miniature rocket (H) which takes him to the moon.

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WHEN YOU SLIP ON ICE, YOUR FOOT KICKS PADDLE (A), LOWERING FINGER (B) SNAPPING TURTLE (C) EXTENDS NECK TO BITE FINGER, OPENING ICE TONGS (D) AND DROPPING PILLOW (E), THUS ALLOWING YOU TO FALL ON SOMETHING SOFT!

More comic strips can be found here: <https://www.rubegoldberg.com/artwork/speed-speed-and-more-speed/?c=61>

Videos:

- [Ok Go – This Too Shall Pass](#)
- [Honda – The Cog](#)
- [Rube Goldberg Photobooth](#)

Name: _____

Make a tally mark every time you see a simple machine!

Simple Machine	Ok Go	Honda "The Cog"	Photo booth	Total
Lever Count				
Pulley Count				
Wheel and Axle Count				
Gear Count				
Inclined Plane Count				
Wedge Count				
Screw Count				

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