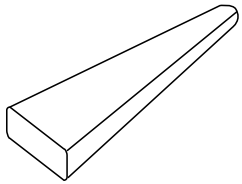


PRE-VISIT ACTIVITIES

FOR SIMPLE MACHINES FIELD TRIP

CUT
THROUGH
IT



WEDGE

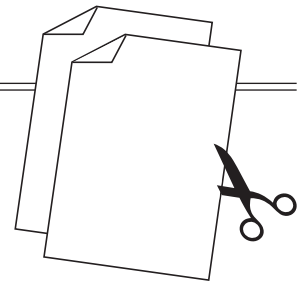
A **wedge** is an inclined plane that is thick at one end and tapers to a point on the other, often used to separate things.

MATERIALS

- Two pieces of paper
- Scissors

STEPS

- 1) Give each student two pieces of paper.
- 2) Have students rip paper in two with their hands.
- 3) Give students a pair of scissors. Using scissors have students cut through the paper with the scissors. Did the scissors make the job easier or harder?



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

The scissors should have made cutting the paper much easier. The scissor edges are wedges and when they cut into the paper they divide it. Another example of a wedge is your teeth, which are used to cut through food.

