

Rube Goldberg Machine Requirements

Physical Science and Technology

You will work with a partner to build your Rube Goldberg Machine. However, the preliminary work (drawings), measurements and calculations, and reflections are all individual assignments.

For this project, you will build a Rube Goldberg Machine. Your RGM needs to be built on a platform that is 16" x 18" and should contain five simple machines. Your RGM should include at least one lever, one ramp, and one pulley (and two additional simple machines).

You should design your RGM so that it accomplishes a very simple task. It should do this in a way that is very reliable – if you run your RGM 10 times, it should successfully accomplish the task at least 8 of those times. It should also be safe and school-appropriate. It needs to fit within the cabinets at the back of the room, so be sure to limit the height of your RGM so it fits below the shelves.

Your RGM will be graded using the following criteria:

1. Does it contain 5 simple machines (with one example of each of the three types of machines we looked at in class)?
2. Does it reliably accomplish a simple task?
3. Is it well-made and aesthetically pleasing?
4. Does it represent a good use of your class time?

The due date for your RGM is still to be determined, but it will be part of your 3rd quarter grade.