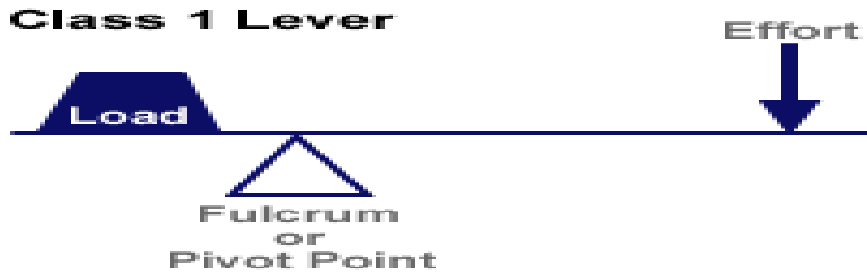


Three Classes of Lever



The three kinds of levers all have common parts: a beam, a fulcrum for the beam to pivot against, a spot for the load to sit on the beam, and a place to apply some effort to make the beam and load move. Class 1 levers, like scissors, seesaws or claw hammers, have the fulcrum in the middle between the effort and load arms. In class 2 and 3 levers, the fulcrum is on one end. Class 2 levers have the load in the middle like a wheelbarrow or a bottle opener, but tweezers or tongs are class 3 levers because the load is on the end. It may surprise you, but we use levers every day!