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Hauling a Pumpkin: Wheels and Axles vs. Lever

Cynthia Frazier

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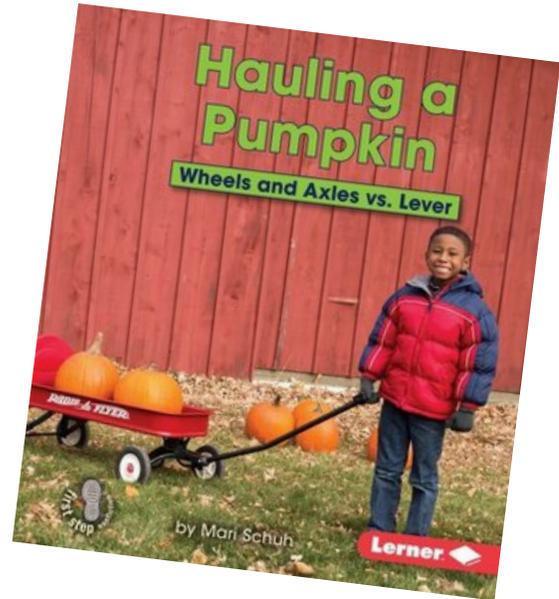
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Book Review

Title: Hauling a Pumpkin: Wheels and Axles vs. Lever
Author: Mari Schuh
Reviewer: Cynthia Frazier
Publisher: Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.
Publication Year: 2016
ISBN: 9781467783040
Number of Pages: 24
Interest Level: Preschool, Primary
Rating: Excellent



Review

Noah is visiting a pumpkin patch and wants to get a large pumpkin. But he finds that it is too heavy for him to lift! His mom takes the opportunity to teach Noah about using tools to help lift and move the pumpkin. First he learns about using a lever. The handle of a shovel is the arm of the lever. When putting the shovel next to a log, the arm turns on a fulcrum as it is moved up and down. The lever and fulcrum can lift the pumpkin but it takes other tools to move the pumpkin. A wagon's wheels and axles allow Noah to pull the pumpkin easily.

A prolific author of over 200 short nonfiction books for early readers, Schuh writes on many topics from learning about rocks, foods that are good for us, and insects. This small book is designed to teach young children about simple machines and how these tools can help us. The book is short with only a sentence of text at the bottom of each page. Photographs illustrating the text show how Noah learns how to use simple tools to move the heavy pumpkin. This book would be of interest to children from kindergarten to second grade as it aptly teaches the simple concepts of levers, wheels, and axles.