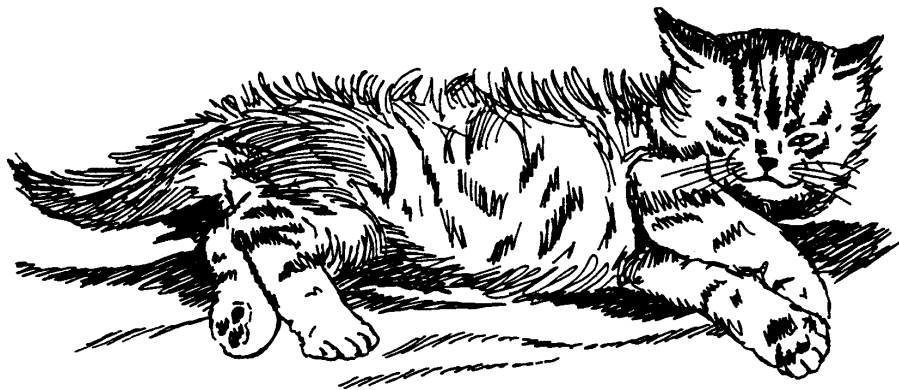


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Accidents Do Happen

On Wednesday, Sean D. Keene was worried. Two weeks earlier, Mr Tuit, his science teacher, had assigned Sean's class a realism assignment: Describe an occurrence of force and motion in everyday terms. The assignment was due on Thursday. Sean had not begun.

Because Sean had missed last week's classes due to chicken pox, he didn't have a clue as to what force and motion were. When Sean heard the word 'force', he thought of those ancient Star Wars movies; when he heard the word 'motion', he imagined car sickness.

Dashing home from school, Sean immediately sat down to plan his attack. Distracted by his hunger, he sauntered off to the pantry, grabbed a few walnuts, and cracked them open with his grandma's antique nutcracker. Ouch! Sean accidentally squeezed the machine on his finger. Pain darted through his hand and arm.

Sean dropped the walnuts just as he heard his dad returning from work. Dad reminded Sean of his promise to tear down the old tree house. The tree house, a remnant of Sean's creative but disorganised past, was a dilapidated structure of rusty nails, rotting wood and mangled rope situated on three branches overhanging the family's paved driveway.

Holding a crowbar in his hand, Sean gingerly climbed the extension ladder. He pried out nail after nail, dropping hunks of the rotting wood to the driveway below. "I sure love destroying stuff", he thought to himself. Just then Sean pried out a spike with a bit too much vigour. The nail shot out of its wooden prison. The crowbar tip snapped back, catching Sean across the corner of his forehead.

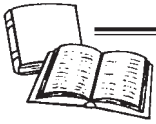


Ten minutes later, with the flow of blood from his noggin stemmed, his worrisome dad felt reassured that x-rays were unneeded. Sean staggered back outside, broom in hand, to clean up the debris on the driveway. With every few swipes of the broom, Sean bent over to gather the junk into an over-sized dustpan and emptied it into a rubbish bin.

Sean was tired and angry. His finger throbbed and his head was spinning. He had no time for this! Shouldn't school come first? With righteous indignation, Sean took a mighty swipe and ... crack! ... the broom fractured the radius bone of his left arm.

The following afternoon each student shared a realism report for science. When Sean's turn came, he stood up. No paper in hand - he was in the emergency room half the night - Sean detailed his sorry excuse. He spoke clearly, dramatically, even emotionally. He described the nutcracker, the crowbar and the broom. Then, looking down at his watch, which read 2:13, Sean muttered "Two-one-three".

"Exactly!" chortled Mr Tuit who was perched on his desk. "Using everyday terms, you have just described force and motion with simple machine levers 2, 1 and 3. Class, please join me in honouring this budding scientist".



Accidents Do Happen

Main Character: _____

Setting: _____

Problem: _____



Key Events:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Solution to problem:

Evaluation:

Extension: Draw pictures to illustrate the 3 lever types. Use words such as fulcrum, force and load. List examples of each from the story.



A Royal Pain

For the unit on European Studies, Kyesha concentrated on England. Since she was particularly fascinated with England's early history, she prepared her class speech on King Richard I. Here it is:

Most people know England's King Richard as the man who thanked Robin Hood for defending the cause of the poor against greedy noblemen. Richard's brother John and the Sheriff of Nottingham were corrupt enemies of the King. We don't really know if Robin Hood ever met with King Richard even though they lived in the same century. What I learnt about King Richard I may shock you.

King Richard, 1157-1199, was a less than honourable king. I will give you four reasons to support this statement.

First, Richard never really grew up. Stories suggest that he fought with his father, the previous king, and his brothers much of his life. He was selfish and even petulant when he did not get his way. Perhaps brother John was a better ruler than Richard, who couldn't sit still for long.

That brings me to my second point. Richard ruled poorly. During the ten years of his reign, he spent only about six months in England. The rest of the time he was in the Holy Land fighting in the Crusades. Richard left the care of England in the hands of his underlings.

Thirdly, Richard cost England a fortune. Because his wars were so expensive, the English royal treasury was in shambles. On his return from the Crusades, Richard was captured by an Austrian duke who held him prisoner for the emperor of the Holy Roman Empire. Richard was held captive until England promised to pay a huge ransom. It's a wonder England was willing to dish out the money.



Finally, Richard I lost English-held land to France. Before the Crusade, Richard was king over vast land holdings on the continent. During Richard's imprisonment, Phillip II of France seized some of the land from England. Richard spent the last five years of his reign trying to regain the land.



A Royal Pain

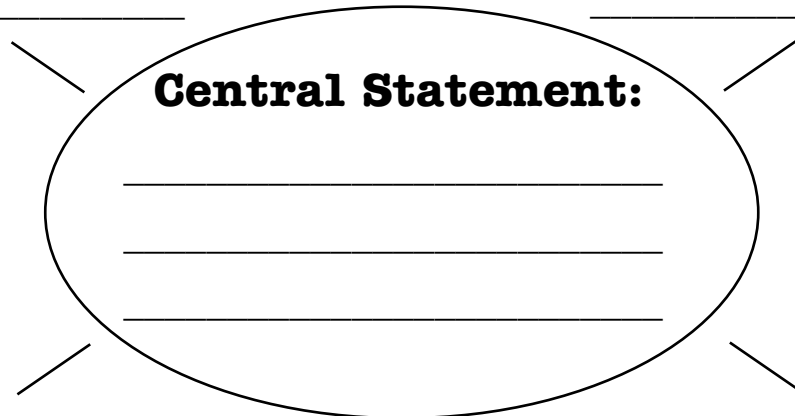
Write the central statement of the report in the centre of the web. Then list four supporting statements. Finally, give the details that clarify each supporting statement.

Supporting Statement:

|
Details

Supporting Statement:

|
Details



Supporting Statement:

|
Details

Supporting Statement:

|
Details

Extension: Research the Crusades. Find out why they were fought, who fought them and what the results were.