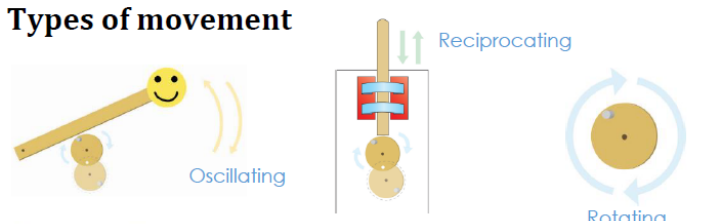
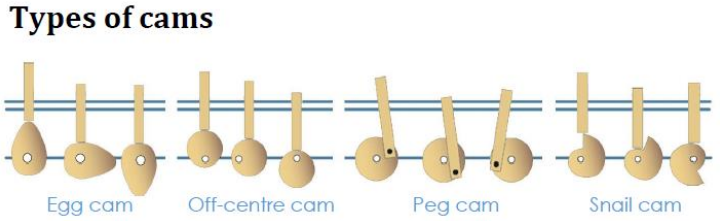
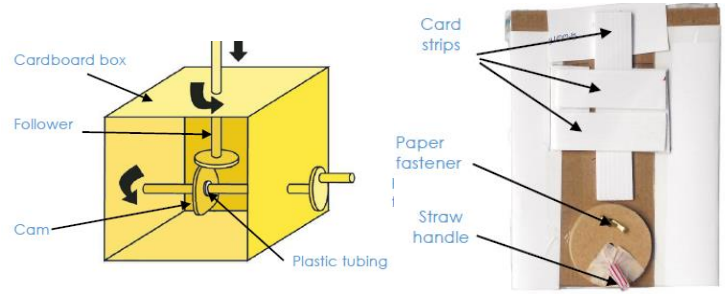
Key Vocabulary

Key Word	Definition
Cam	A mechanism that changes one sort of movement to another. Cams can be an off-centre wheel or a specially shaped wheel.
Snail cam	Snail cams have the appearance of a snail shell. It causes the follower to remain stationary for half a turn before gently rising and suddenly falling.
Off-centre cam	Circular cams use an off-centre pivot to cause the follower to move up and down.
Peg cam	Attaching the follower off from the pivot point to create a larger movement.
Pear shaped cam	Pear cams are called this as they have the shape of a pear. It remains stationary for half a turn then gently rises and falls.
Follower	The device that follows the movement of the cam: a lever or a slider.
Crank	Turning handle to turn the camshaft.
Framework	A framework is the skeleton of the project – the strong shape that holds everything together and makes it stand up.
Rotary motion	Movement that goes round.
Oscillating motion	Moving to and fro around a pivot point, as in a lever.
Reciprocating motion	Reciprocating motion - backwards and forwards movement in a straight line, as in a slider.

Y6 Summer Term
Cams







Learning Sequence

1. Explore products with cam mechanisms.
2. Research to inform and develop detailed design criteria.
3. Use a range of techniques to make a cam mechanism, with precision and accuracy.
4. Evaluate ideas against a design criteria and make improvements.
5. Confidently and independently select materials for function.
6. Evaluate my product against my design and consider the views of others.