



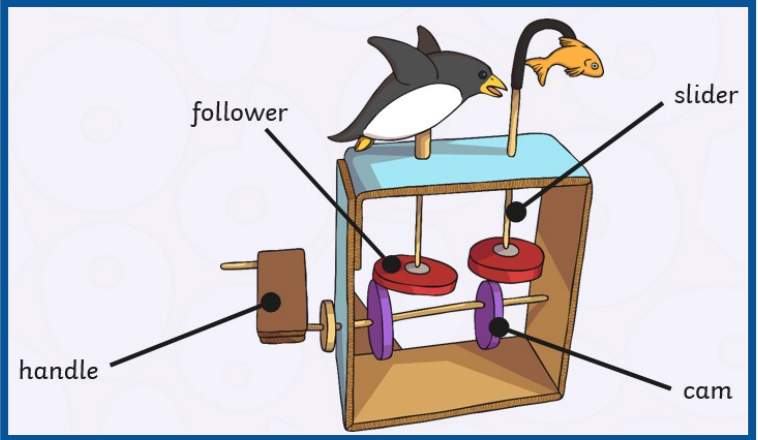
Year 3 & 4 Mechanisms (Cams) - Moving Window Display

Cam Mechanism

A cam mechanism is made up of three components:

- a cam
- a slider
- a follower

The mechanism causes components to move. Cams can be made out of metal, plastic or wood.



Linear motion - straight line



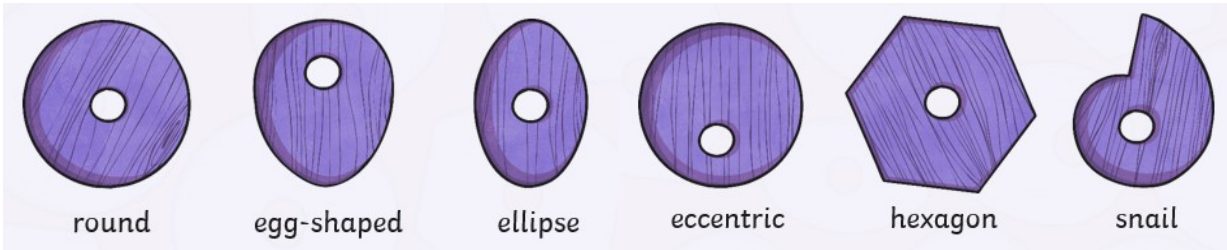
Rotary motion - turning in a circle



Eccentric Cam Mechanism



Different types of cams create different movements.



Key Vocabulary	
cam mechanism	a mechanical device or system that uses a specially shaped component called a "cam" to convert rotary (circular) motion into controlled linear (back-and-forth) or reciprocating (repeated) motion
cam	a piece of specifically shaped material such as a disk, pear, heart or egg that creates unique movements when fixed to a rotating shaft
slider	a rigid bar that moves
follower	the part that follows the shape of the cam and is responsible for the desired motion
rotating shaft	is where the cam is attached, allowing it to spin or rotate
linear motion	a back-and-forth or up-and-down movement produced by cams and followers
rotary motion	a circular movement, produced by the rotation of a cam fixed to a rotating shaft