

The Wheel Shop

PreK

Materials: A tricycle and/or a picture of a tricycle for each student, counters or round chips (20 per group).

Discussion on the rug: The teacher shows the tricycle. “**What do we call this? How many wheels does a tricycle have? Who can show me how they know there are three wheels? Who else can show me? What if I have two tricycles—how many wheels would I have?**” The teacher continues to ask children to explain how many wheels and how they know for sure, perhaps eliciting three examples before going to small groups.

In small groups: Each group has approximately 20 round counters to model as wheels.

Teacher asks the following questions, only going on to the next question if students have success.

1. Show me with counters how many wheels you would have with three tricycles. How can you check to know for sure?

Continue until you think students understand a process. If 10 is too large, use a different number.

2. If you had 10 tricycles, how many wheels would you have? How do you know?

At the end of the investigation, have students either draw a picture to represent their solution or dictate a response to this summary question.

Tricycle



Wheel Shop images courtesy Charles A. Dana Center.

