

ROBOTICS BUILDING BLOCKS





CURRICULUM MAP

Page	Title Section	Estimated Time (minutes)	Completed
1	Robotics Building Blocks	10	
2	Imaginations Coming Alive	5	
	Robots - Changing the World	5	
	Amazing Feat	15	
	Activity	10	
	Overview	15	
	Assemble Technics	15	
	EV3 Block is a computer	10	
	Installing EV3 Software	10	
	The Program	10	
	Congratulations	20	
	Solving Bigger Problems	5	
	Sturdy Structures	15	
	Getting Ready for Next Challenge	35	
	Challenge - Maze	15	
	Well Done	10	
	Getting in Gear	10	
	Synchronizing	10	
	Speed & Power Transmission	10	
	Challenge - Maze Fork	15	
	Compliments	5	
	Sensing	15	
	Are we there yet	20	
	How Far are We?	20	
	What's Next	10	

SUPPORT & NOTES

By the end of this curriculum youth will have the knowledge, skills, and hands on experience to help them in:

- understanding the steps involved in building robots
- understanding how scientists and engineers build and use robots for societal benefits
- knowing about what is the state of the art in the robotics industry
- understanding how to integrate their knowledge of math and science into real project settings to solve challenges that are important to them
- understanding the structure of computer programs
- increasing their curiosity to continue their interest in robotics whether it is just fun or some idea that they want to explore
- designing solutions to challenges like First Lego League (FLL)
- learning about gears and using gear drives to tap power from motors
- building robots that are based upon a concept of assemblies that can be attached on demand
- building robots that can respond to their environment using sensors such as touch and ultrasonic sensors
- gaining confidence of learning additional intermediate and advanced topics in robots

This curriculum teaches problem solving, using and building robots, and programming. Youth learn about the process of decision making and problem solving by integrating concepts that they have learned in their math and science curricula. This curriculum is best delivered as a group activity involving 3-4 youth team members and a mentor. The content, activities, and videos that are part of this curriculum should be sufficient to provide the contextual knowledge set towards the objectives of this course. A mentor in the learning team will provide the framework for enhancing the learning by their ability to provide support for developing the full potential of youth through social encouragement, motivation, persistence, and behavior control. The mentor's role could be provided by an inschool teacher, a parent, or a caregiver. **Among the strengths of this curriculum**,





the one that is important to note is that this curriculum provides a systematic introduction to questions such as where to start and how to start learning about robots, and what should be the next step in the learning process. In a nutshell, the older adults bring their valuable prior experience and success in life skills, child rearing, and youth development in the learning process whereas this curriculum guides through the content knowledge.

The time required by individual students to complete this curriculum may vary. However, as a starting point it will be good to estimate 2 hours per week for five weeks for students in grade 5 through grade 8.





ACTIVITY < What Bot Will You Make >

Question: What kind of robot would you like to build and why?

Question: If you were to take inspiration from nature to build a robot then

What is that inspiration and Why?

What will this robot do?





Draw how your robot might look





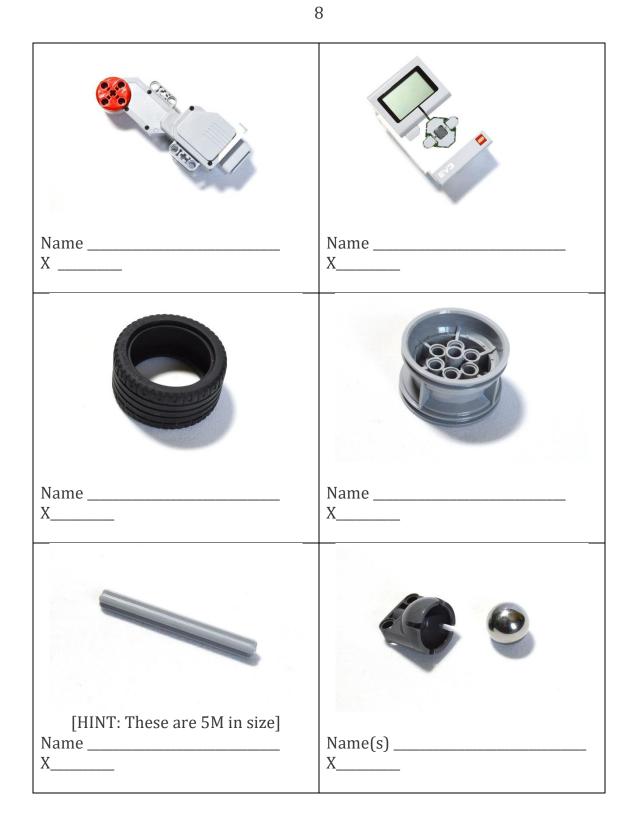
ACTIVITY < Build Cycle - parts list>

In this activity, you will be preparing to build a bot that resembles the graphic below. Using a **pen/pencil** to write down the name of each part and the number of each part included in the kit by finding it in the elements list on pages 66-69 of the EV3 users guide (available at: https://www.lego.com/en-us/mindstorms/downloads).



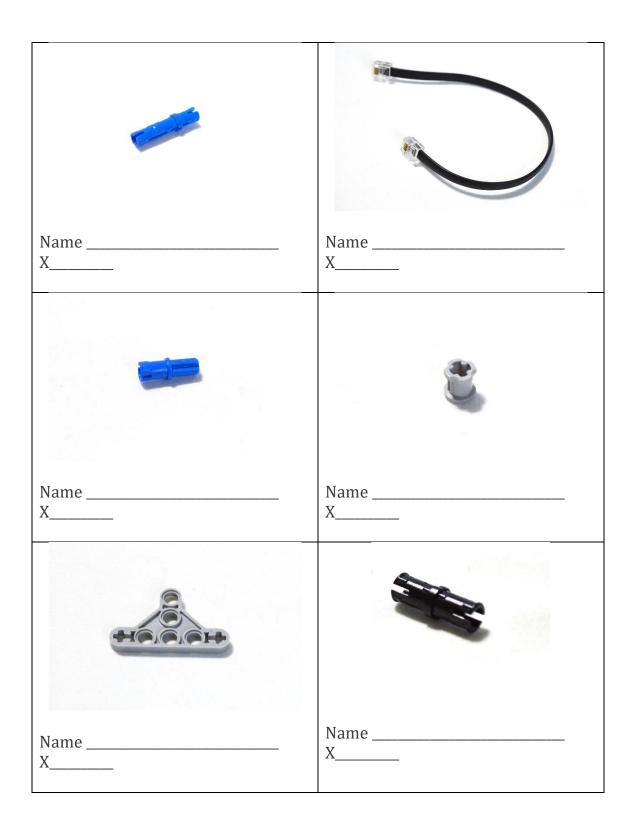










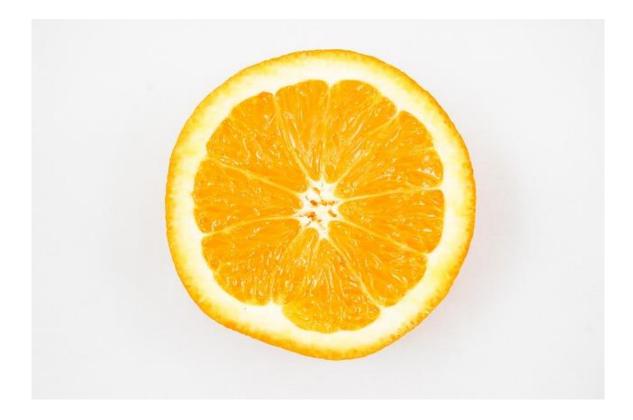




ACTIVITY < Axel cross section>

In this activity, we will look at the axel cross section more closely.

Cross section is a view that would be obtained by making a straight cut through something, especially when the cut is at right angles to the axis. Here is an example of cross section of an orange.













ACTIVITY < Build Cycle Bot >

In this activity, we will build a simple bot (simBot) that we can use as a starting point for other activities. This is a bare minimum design – feel free to be creative and design a bot that you want.

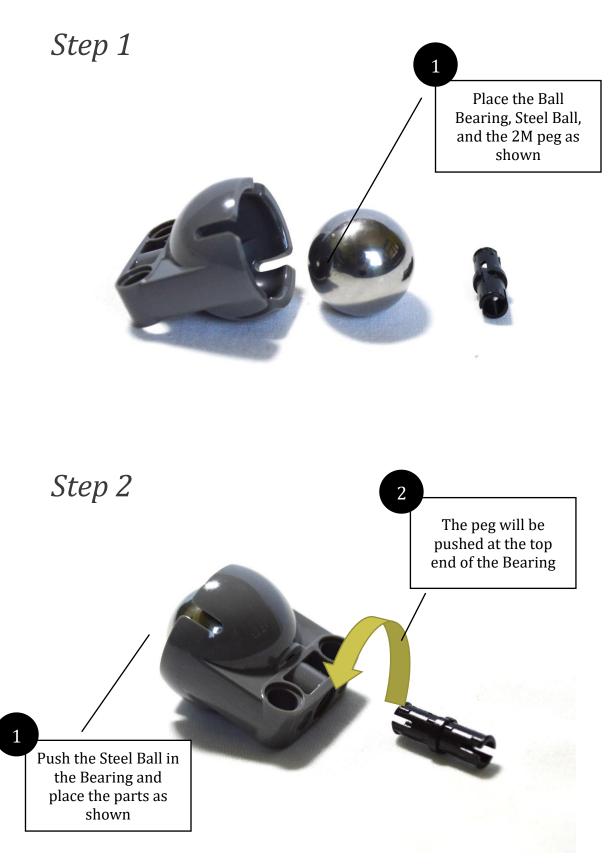


Find the following from your Mindstorms kit – you may follow the steps provided in the accompanying document.

🗆 1 X EV3 block	□ 1 X steel ball	□ 4 X 3M connection peg with	
□ 2 X large motors	\square 1 X ball bearing	friction	
□ 2 X tires	□ 1 X 2M Connector	□ 2 X cables	
□ 2 X hubs	with friction	□ 1X ½ triangle beam	
□ 2 X 5M axles	2 X 1M bushing	□ 2 X 2M connector peg with	
		friction/axle	

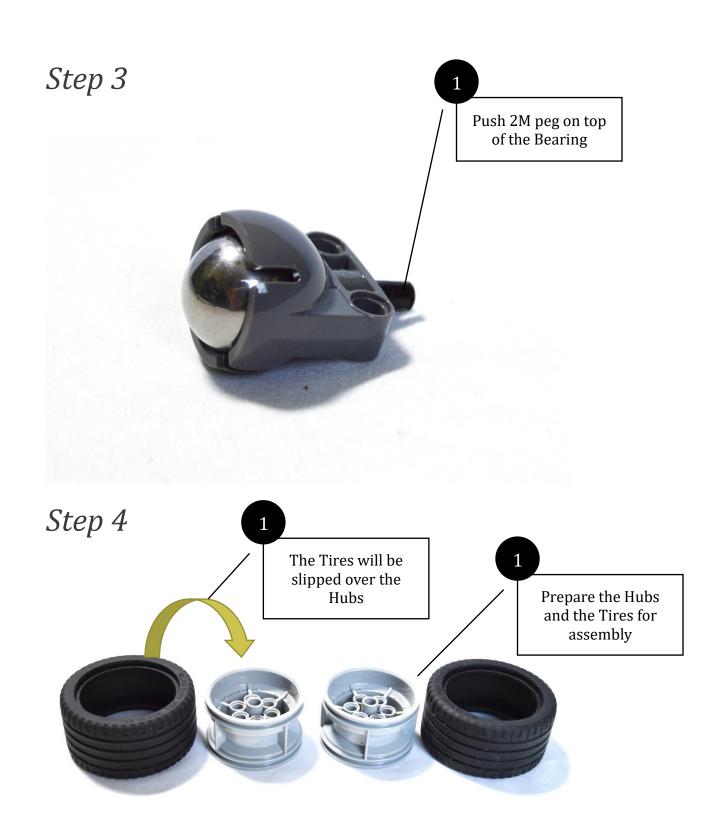






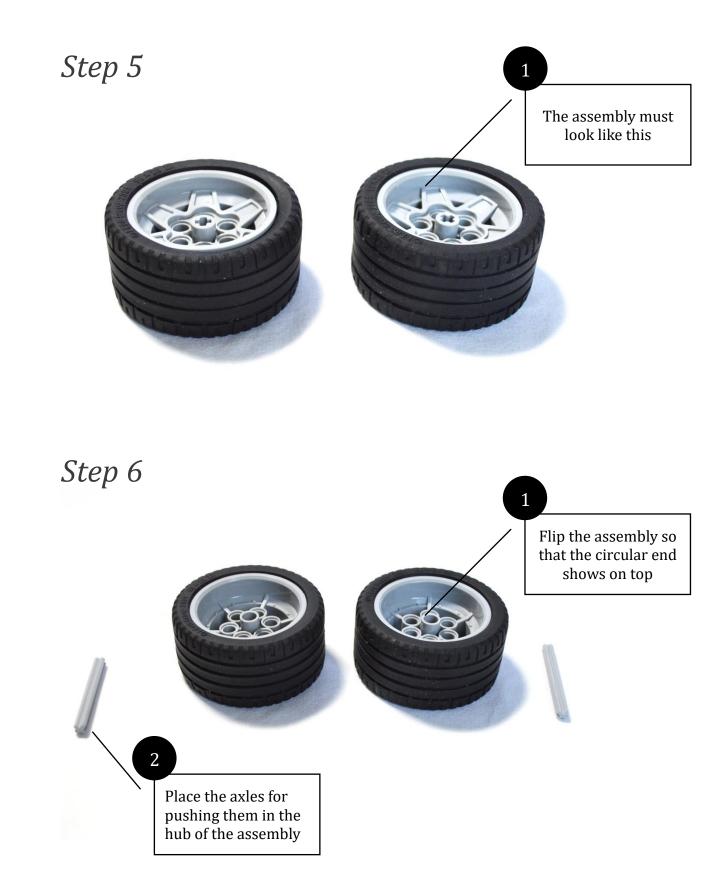






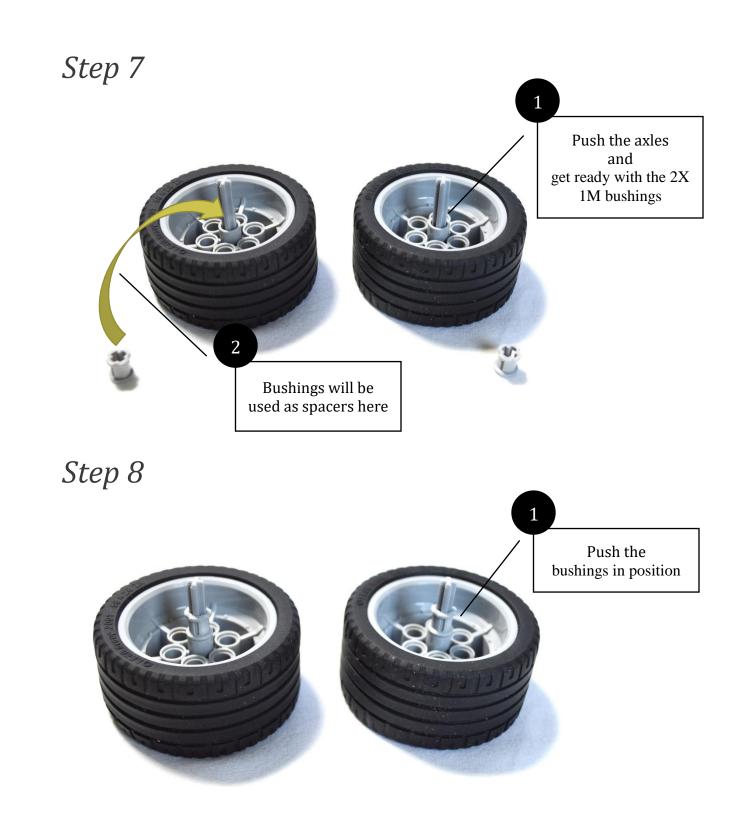






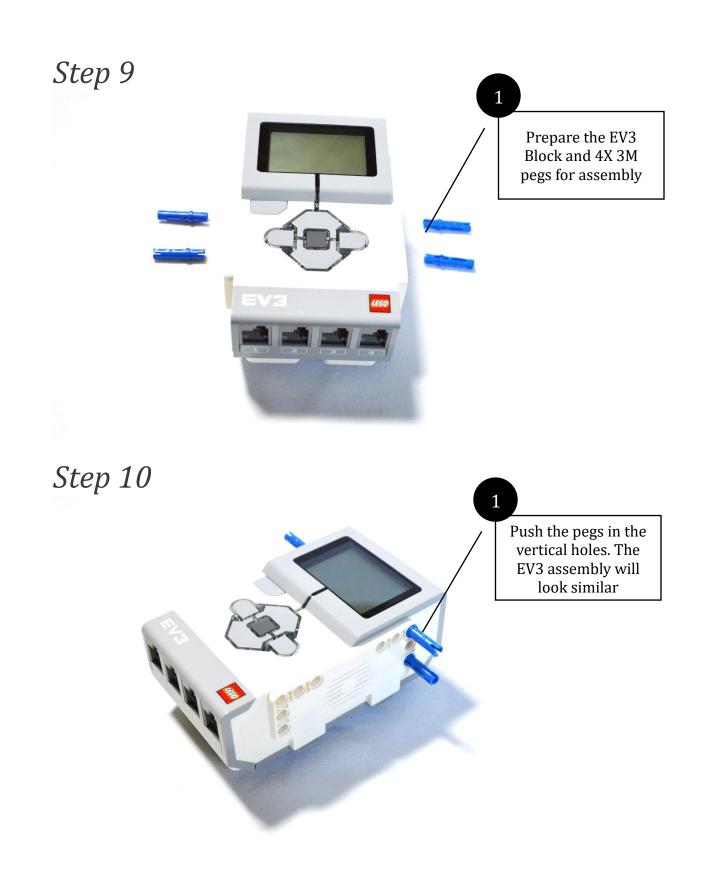








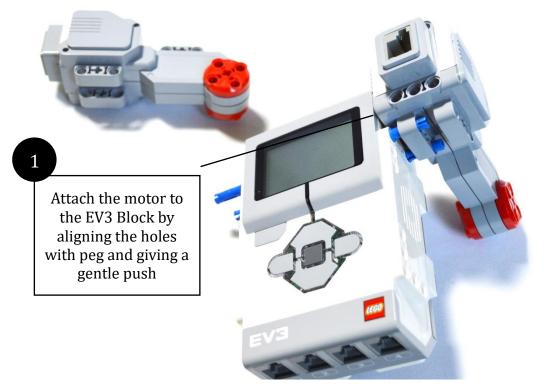








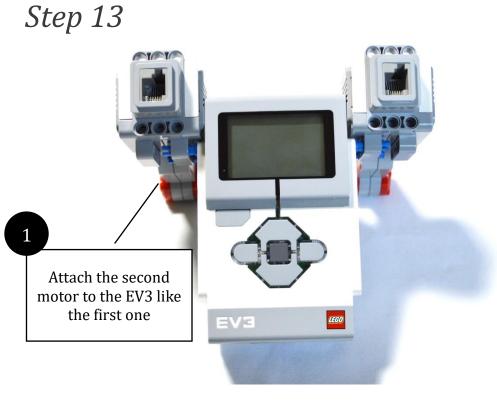
Step 12

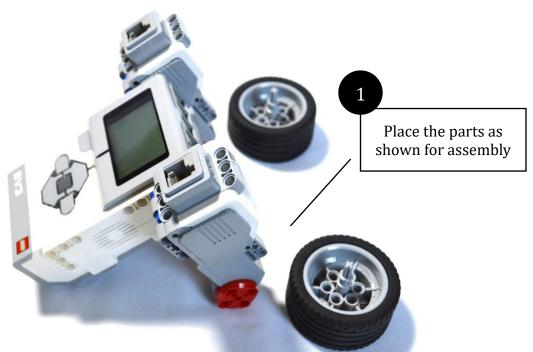




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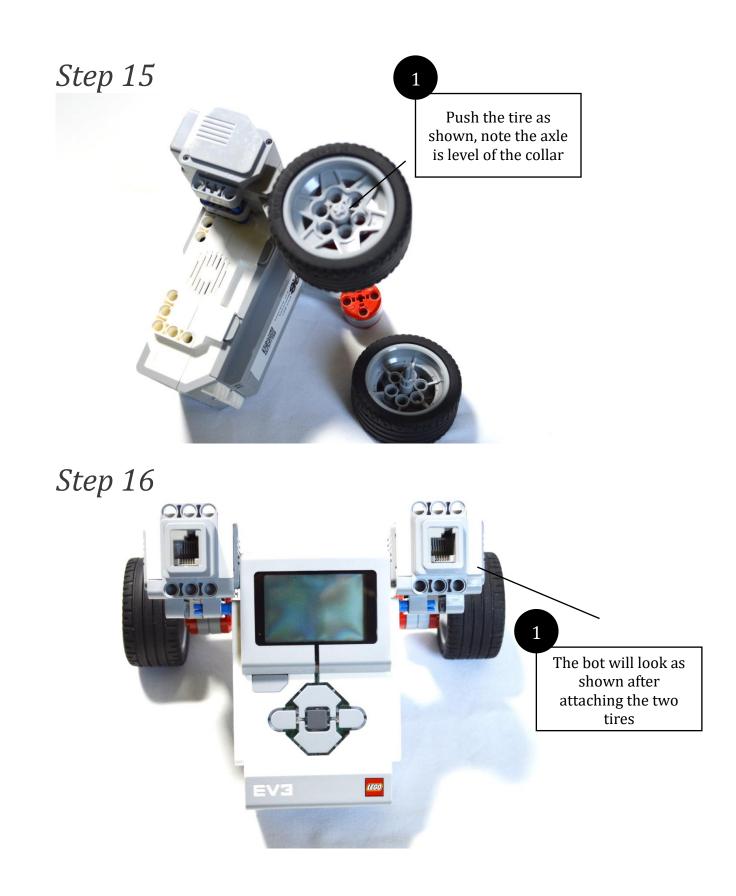






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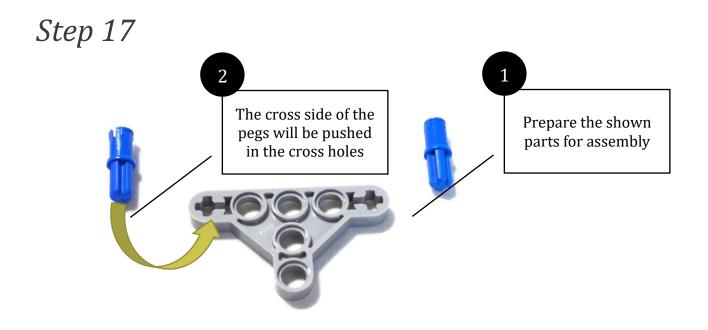


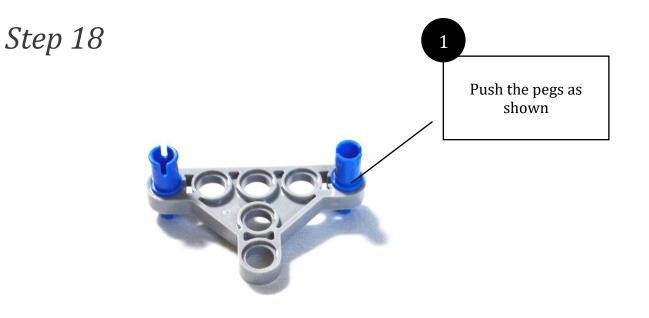




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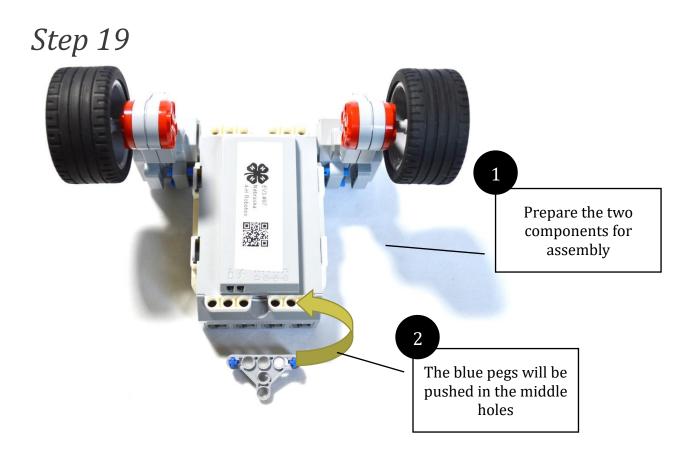


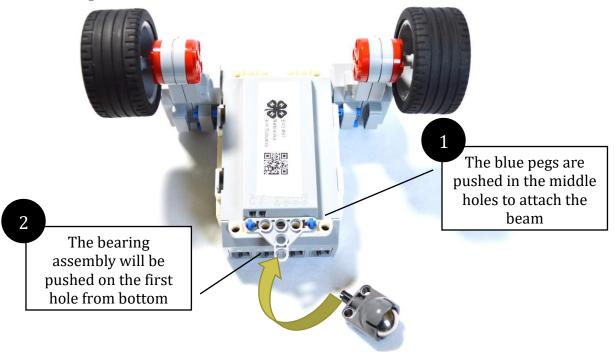








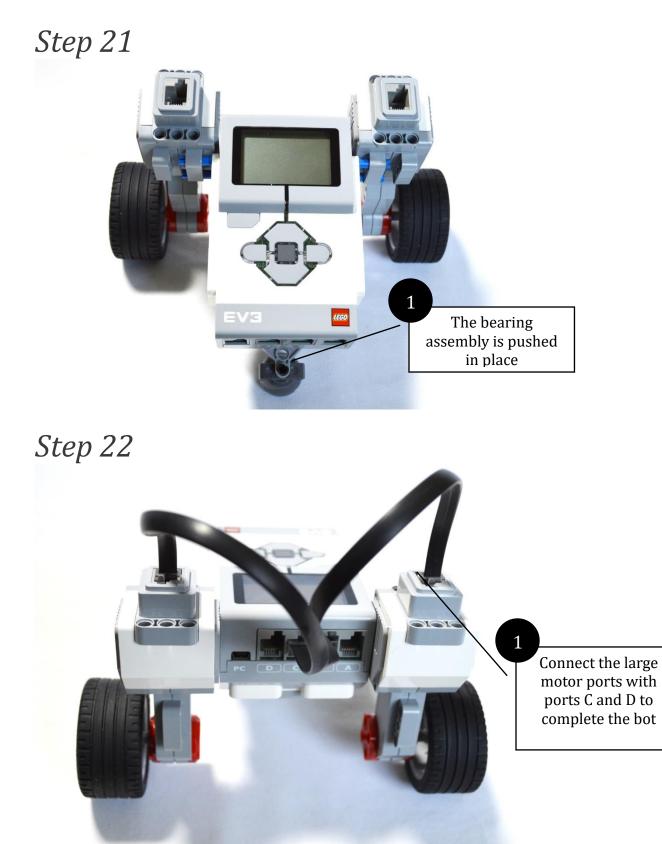






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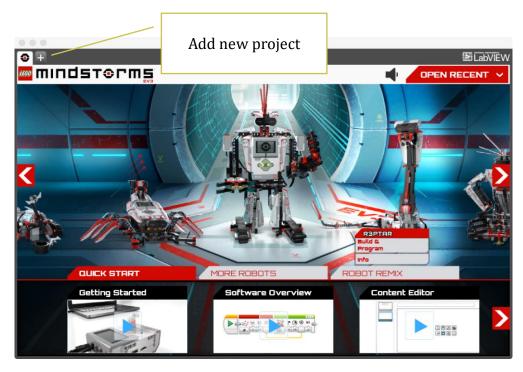
ACTIVITY
< EV3 Software>

In this activity, the goal is to be able to find the EV3 software, start it, save a file, and finally reopen it.

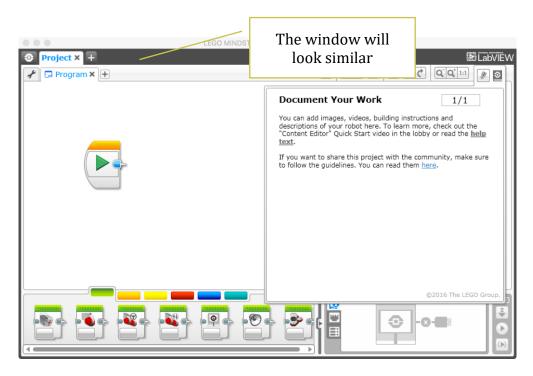






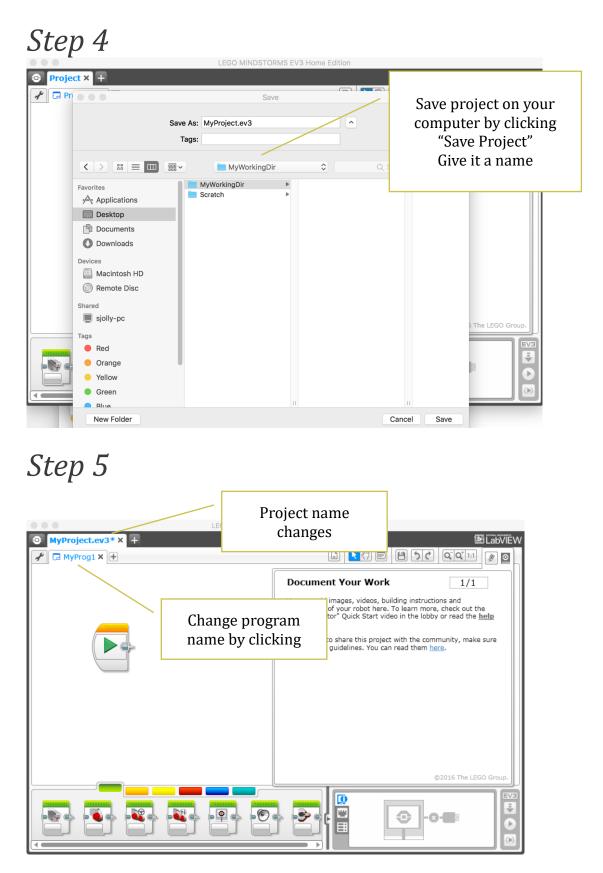


Step 3



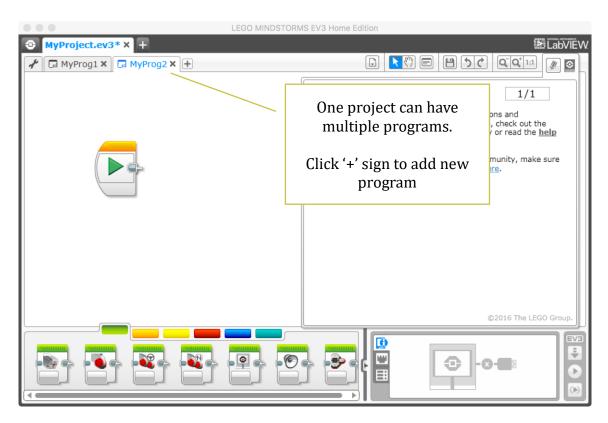












Locate the file on your computer where you saved it and open it. It is a good practice to save your programs in a folder where you can locate them and refer to them or reuse them for future use.





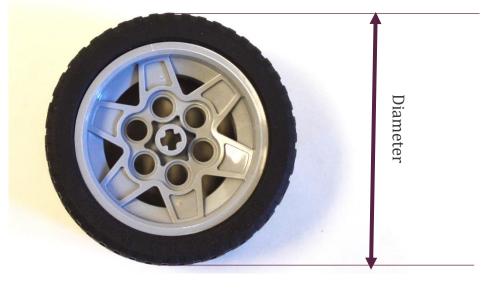
ACTIVITY
< Calculating Distance Travelled >

In this activity, our goal is to understand how to calculate the distance that our bot will travel for each revolution of the wheel. Next, we will calculate number of revolutions the bot wheel will be required to travel in order to achieve a certain distance.

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Step 1

Measure the diameter of the wheel from your EV3 set. Use a scale that can measure in millimeters (mm)



Diameter = _____

Step 2

Calculate a value (let's call it **Circumference**) by multiplying 3.14 with the **Diameter** you found in step 1 or **Circumference = Diameter X 3.14**

Thus **Circumference = _____ X 3.14**





Circumference = _____

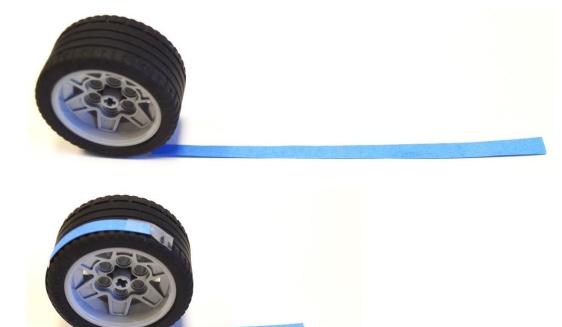
Step 3

Cut a narrow strip of paper which is 10 mm in width and has a length of the value you calculated for the **Circumference**.



Step 4

Take the strip from previous step and wrap it around a wheel from the EV3 set as shown below









You will notice that the strip that you had created wraps the wheel perfectly. Which means that when the wheel makes one revolution it travels the distance which is calculated by the **Circumference** of the wheel. See the image below to see if you agree.







This also means that if the wheel makes two revolutions then the bot will travel by a distance = 2 X Circumference and similarly for 3 revolutions distance = 3 X Circumference and so on.

We also know that the Circumference is calculated by multiplying the value of pi which is 3.14 with the Diameter. We can see thus that

DistanceTraveledByBot = 3.14 X Diameter X NumberOfWheelRevolutions

We can also calculate the number of wheel revolutions required if we know the distance that must be traveled by the bot by simply rearranging the above formula to:

 $NumberOfWheelRevolutions = \frac{DistanceTraveledByBot}{3.14 X Diameter}$

Step 7

Answer the following questions. You may plugin the values in the above formula for your answers

- 1. If you set the <u>number of revolutions for the wheel to be 3</u> and your robot has wheels with <u>diameter of 56 mm</u>, how far will your robot travel?
- 2. Set the values of your program to have 3 revolutions of the wheel and then measure the distance that the bot moves





a. How close was this answer as compared to previous one?

b. If it was different, what could have caused the difference?

3. <u>Run the bot. If you want your bot to travel 200 mm and your robot</u> has wheels with <u>diameter of 56 mm</u>, how many revolutions must your wheel make?

 $NumberOfWheelRevolutions = \frac{3.14 X}{3.14 X}$

4. If you want your bot to travel a <u>distance of 500 mm</u> and your robot has wheels with <u>diameter of 56 mm</u>, how many revolutions must your wheel make?





ACTIVITY < Connectors Smooth or With Friction>

33

The technics parts have different type of pins. In this activity, your goal is to explore the different types. Selecting the correct pin for the type of joint is important for a sturdy robot

Step 1

Find the following from your Mindstorms Kit:

- □ 1 of 13M beam
- □ 1 of 2M black peg
- □ 1 of 2M gray peg
- □ 1 of 2M blue axel peg
- □ 1 of 2M gray axel peg
- □ 1 of 3M blue peg
- □ 1 of 3M gray peg

Step 2

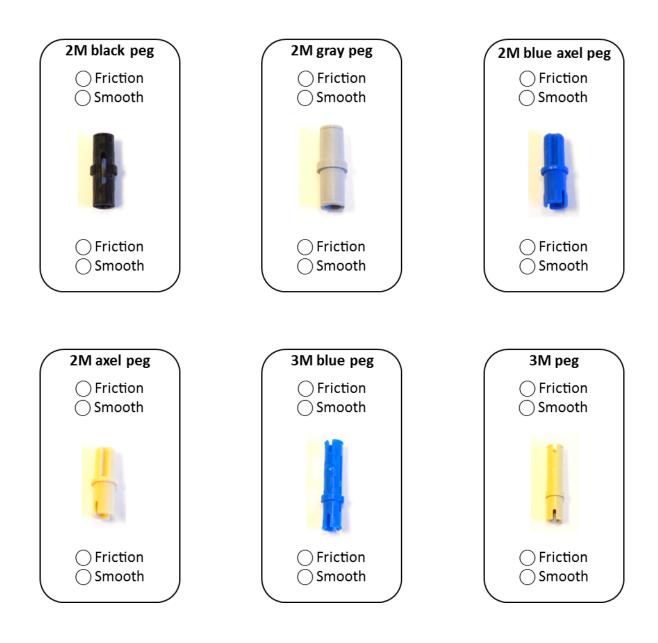
Push one side of the 2M black peg in a hole in 13M beam and then try to rotate the peg – note if it rotates easily. Pull out the peg and now push the other side in a hole in 13M – note if it rotates easily. Mark your findings in the picture below if the side offers a frictional joint or offers a smooth joint.

Step 3

Repeat <u>Step 2</u> with all other pegs that you selected in <u>Step 1</u> and mark your findings on next page. Mark Friction/Smooth for both top and bottom side of the pins.









ACTIVITY < Cross Pinning >

In this activity, we will make rectangular frames - we will cross pin using (i) rectangular or square shape, and (ii) triangular shape. Your goal will be to test which one of the two cross pinning makes sturdy frames.

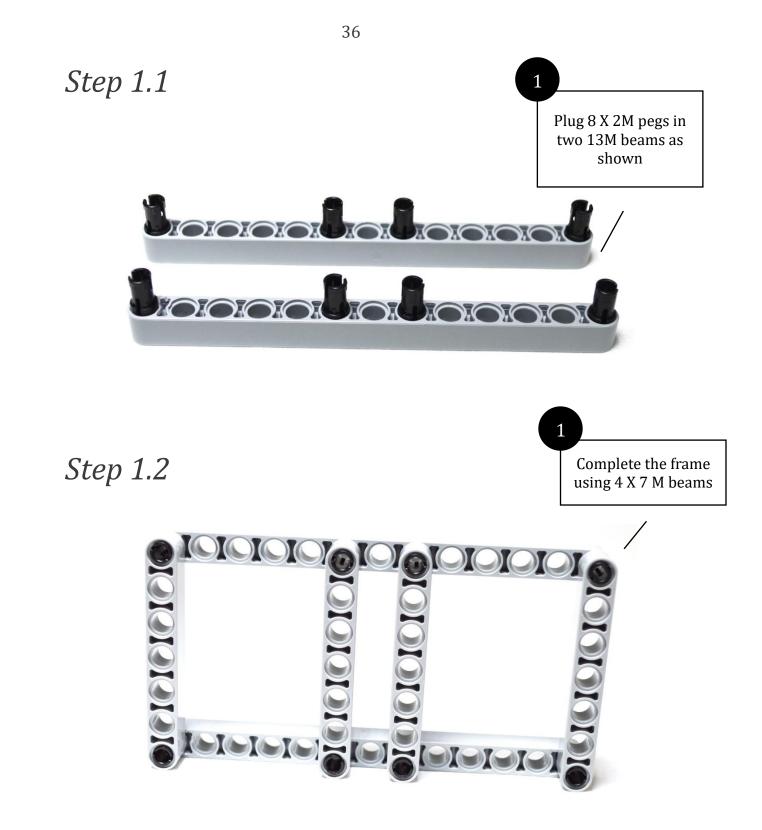


Find the following from your Mindstorms kit.

- □ 4 X 13M beams
- □ 8 X 7M beams
- $\Box\,\,16\,X\,2M$ connection peg with friction

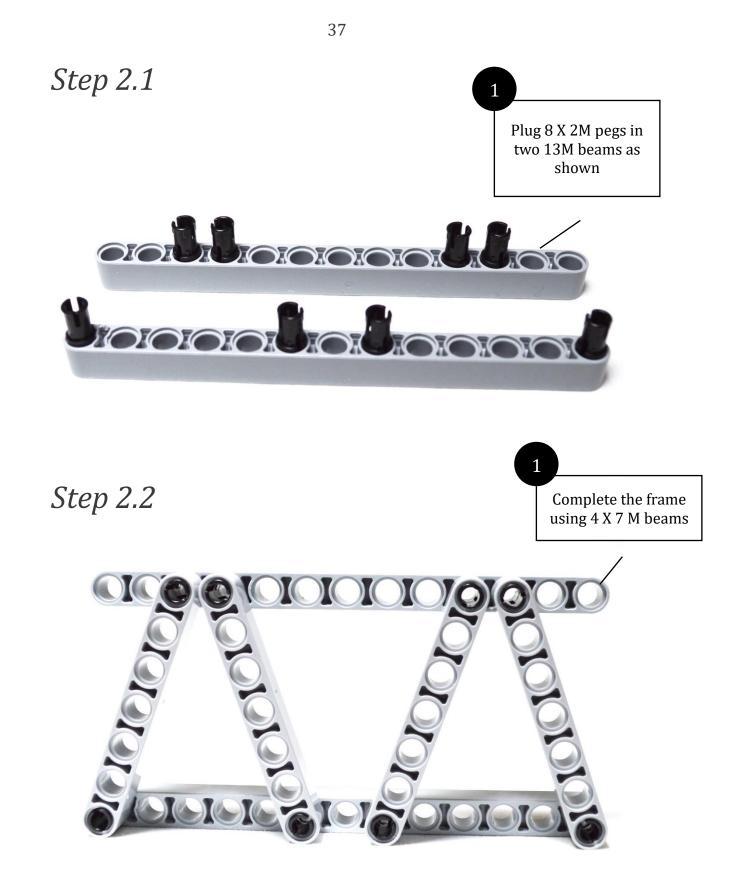
















Step 3- Answer the questions below



Frame cross pinned using rectangular shape

Frame cross pinned using triangular shape

Which of the two frames are more stable when you apply force near the position of the arrows?

Support your previous answer by explaining what you think makes the frame you selected sturdy.





ACTIVITY < simBot >

In this activity, we will build a simple bot (simBot) that we can use as a starting point for other activities. This is a bare minimum design – feel free to be creative and design a bot that you want to.

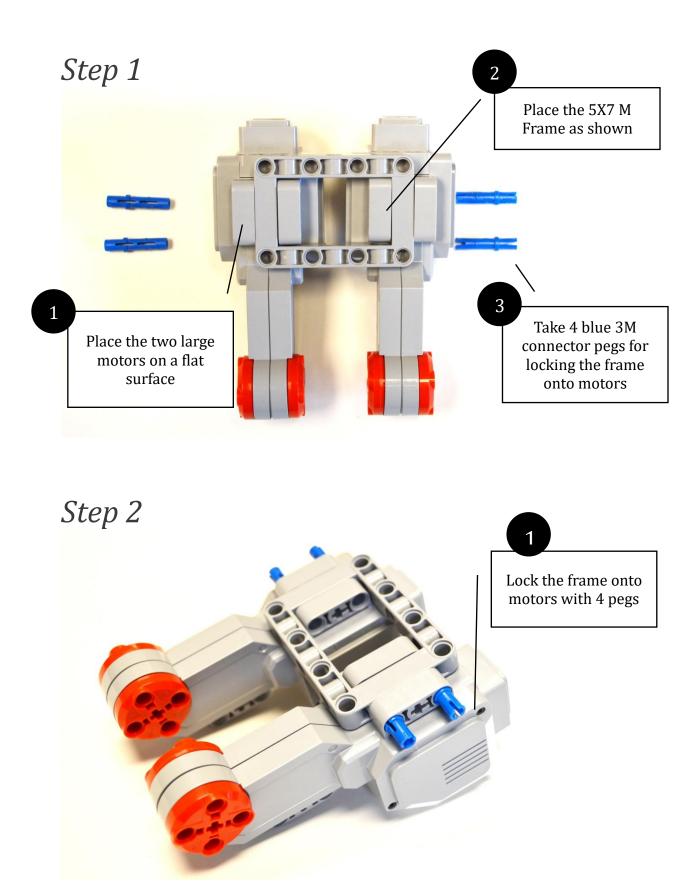


Find the following from your Mindstorms kit – you may follow the steps provided in the accompanying document.

□ 1 X EV3 block	□ 2 X 5M axles	□ 18 X 3M connection peg
□ 2 X large motors	1 X steel ball	with friction
□ 2 X tires	\square 1 X ball bearing	□ 2 X 5x7M frames
🗆 2 X hubs	2 X 1M bushing	🗆 1 X 5x11 frame

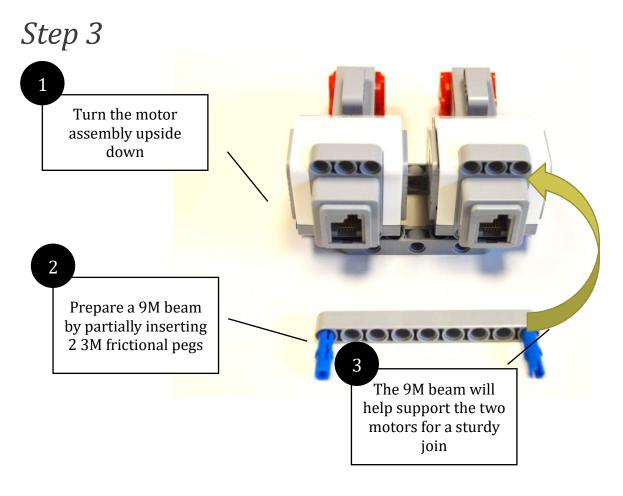


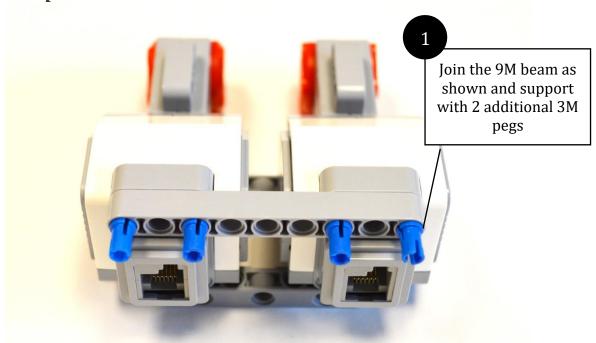








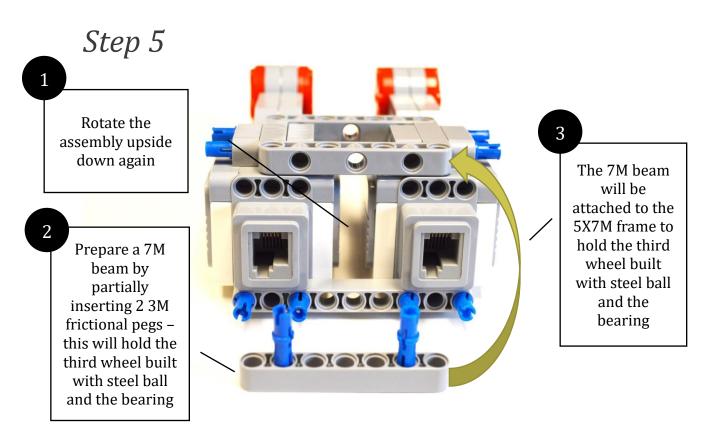


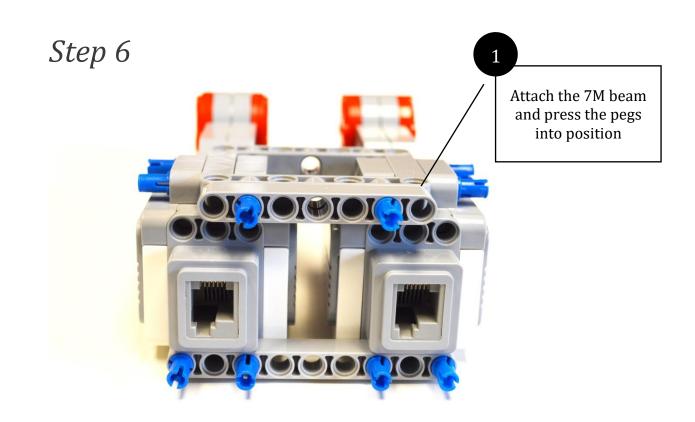




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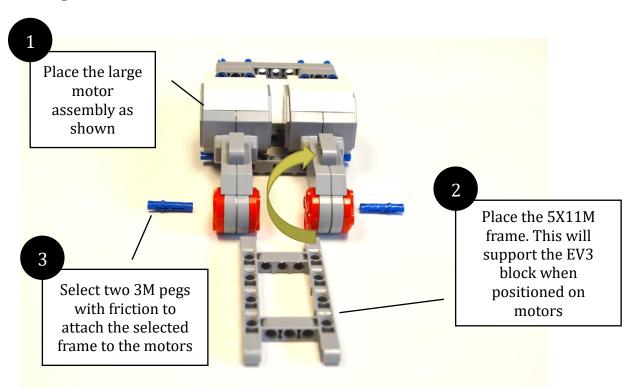


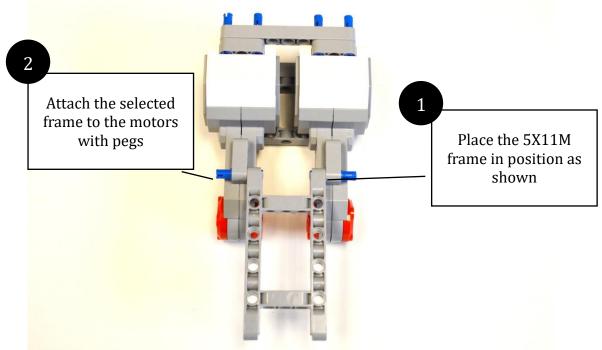






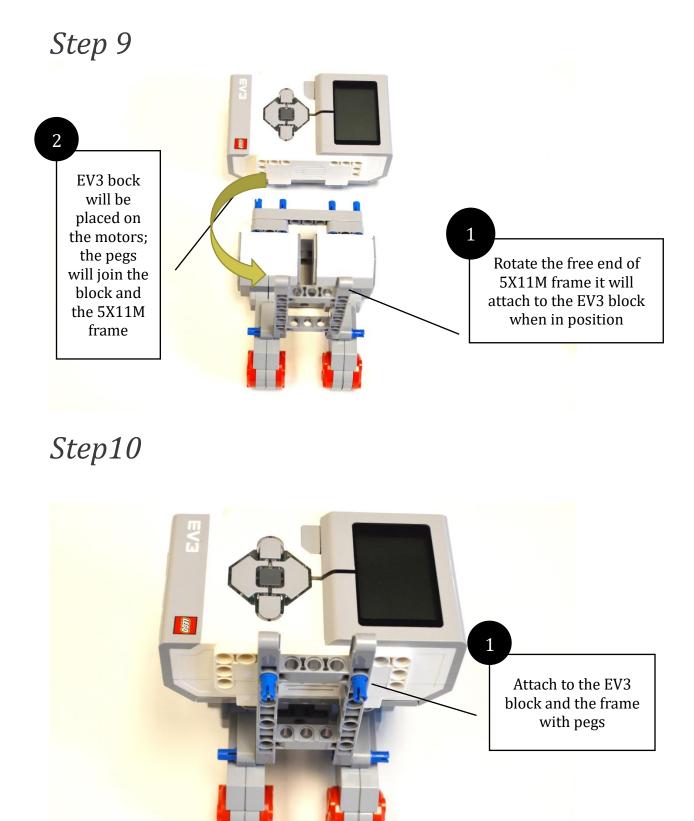






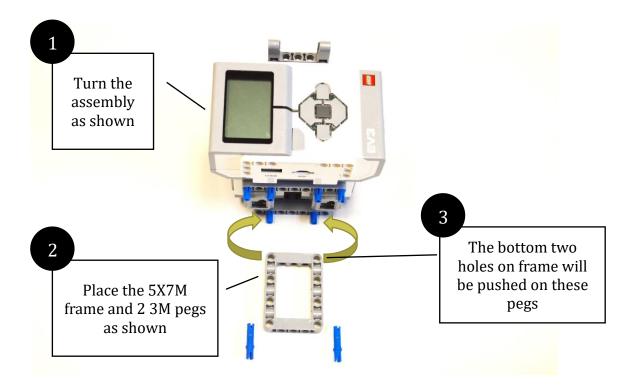




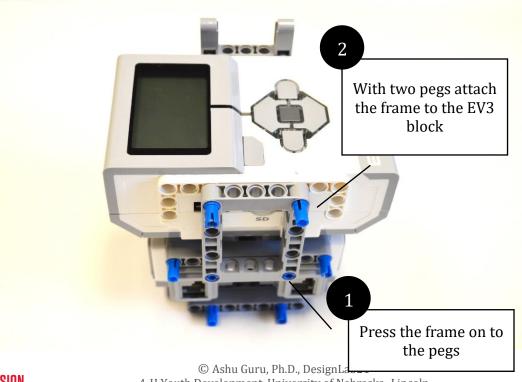








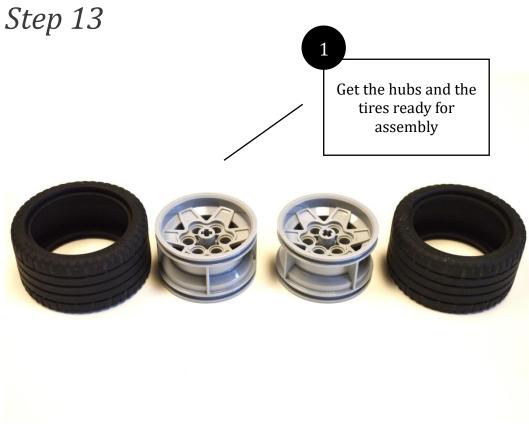
Step 12





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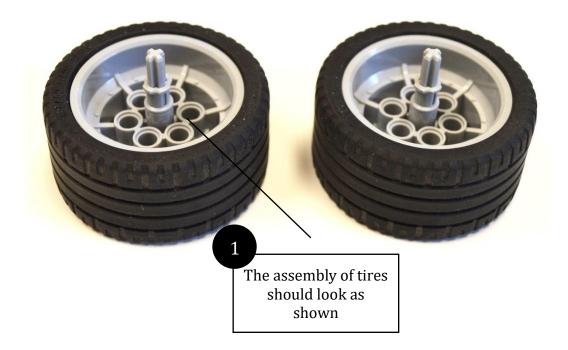
Insert the 5M axles from the circular hole side of the hub





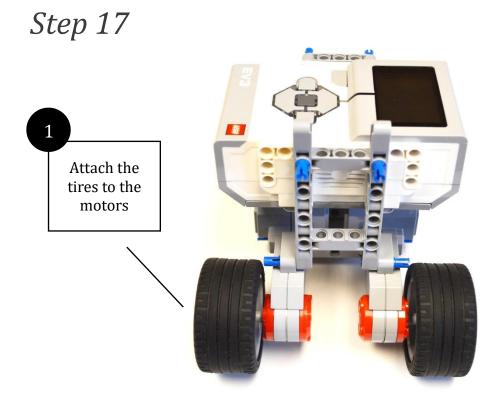
J Add 1M bushings on the axles as spacers

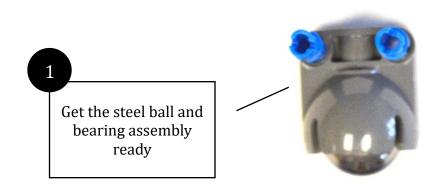
Step 16





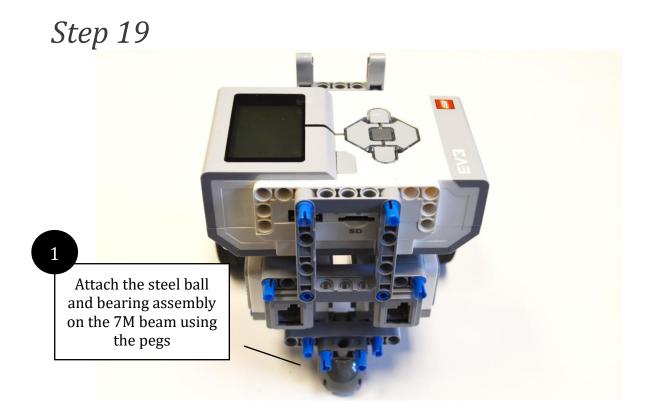


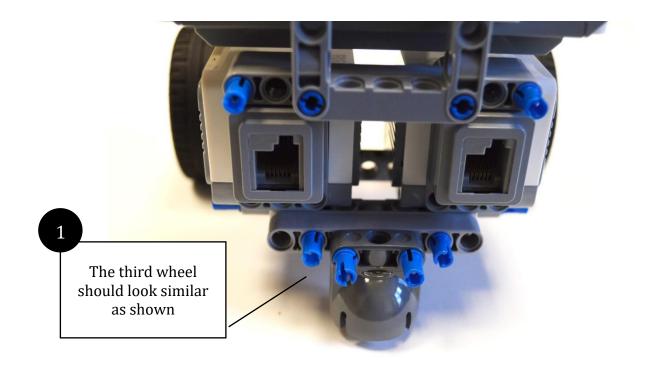






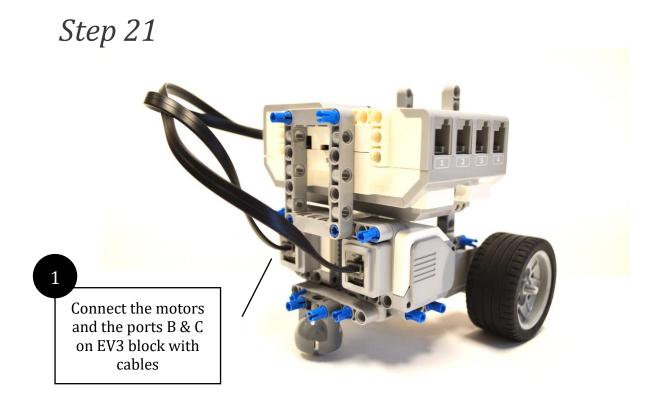


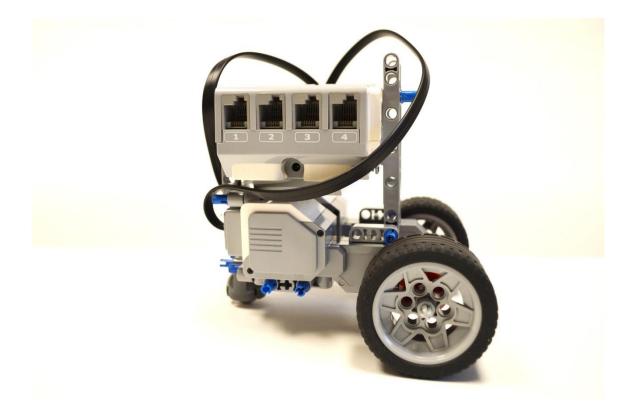












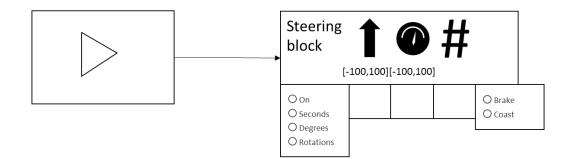




ACTIVITY < Move Steering >

Section 1

In this section, you will first look at the drawing and try to answer <u>what do</u> <u>you expect</u> the bot will do. In the next step you will answer <u>what did you find</u> by programming your bot.

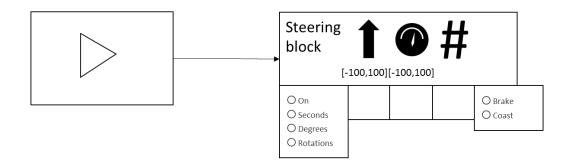


What do you expect?	What did you find?
The bot will move	The bot moved
Forward	Forward
Backward	Backward
Left	Left
Right	Right
The distance travelled by the bot is controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time	The distance travelled by the bot was controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time
The power is: O Low O Medium O High	The power was: O Low O Medium O High





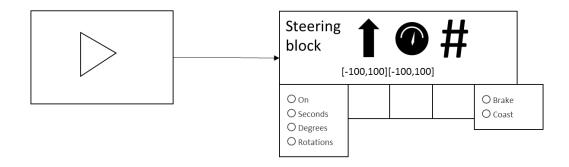
What will bot do after performing the	What did bot do after performing the
steering instruction?	steering instruction?
O Braked immediately	O Braked immediately
O Slowly stopped as it lost	O Slowly stopped as it lost
momentum	momentum
1	



What do you expect?	What did you find?
The bot will move	The bot moved
Forward	Forward
Backward	Backward
Left	Left
Right	🗌 Right
The distance travelled by the bot is controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time	The distance travelled by the bot was controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time
The power is: O Low O Medium O High	The power was: O Low O Medium O High
What will bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum	What did bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum



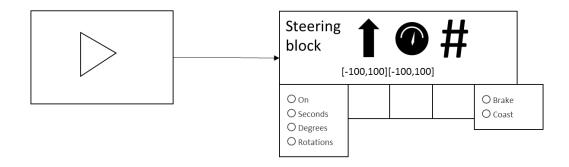




What do you expect?	What did you find?
The bot will move	The bot moved
Forward	Forward
Backward	Backward
Left	□ Left
Right	□ Right
The distance travelled by the bot is controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time	The distance travelled by the bot was controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time
The power is: O Low O Medium O High	The power was: O Low O Medium O High
What will bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum	What did bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum



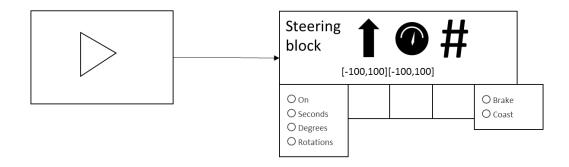




What do you expect?	What did you find?
The bot will move	The bot moved
Forward	Forward
Backward	Backward
Left	Left
Right	Right
The distance travelled by the bot is controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time	The distance travelled by the bot was controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time
The power is: O Low O Medium O High	The power was: O Low O Medium O High
What will bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum	What did bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum







What do you expect?	What did you find?
The bot will move	The bot moved
Forward	Forward
Backward	Backward
Left	Left
Right	Right
The distance travelled by the bot is controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time	The distance travelled by the bot was controlled by: O Wheel rotation O Time
The power is: O Low O Medium O High	The power was: O Low O Medium O High
What will bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum	What did bot do after performing the steering instruction? O Braked immediately O Slowly stopped as it lost momentum





Section 2

In this section, you are given a scenario and your goal is to program the bot to make that action.

Scenario 1:

The bot moves *Forward* by <u>3 wheel rotations</u> and then <u>stops by braking</u>

Scenario 2:

The bot moves Forward by <u>3 wheel rotations</u> and then stops by braking

Scenario 3:

The bot moves Forward by <u>3 wheel rotations</u> and then stops by braking

Scenario 4:

The bot moves Forward by 3 wheel rotations and then stops by braking

Scenario 5:

The bot moves Forward by <u>3 wheel rotations</u> and then stops by braking





ACTIVITY < Three Gear Drive >

In this activity, we will explore meshing gears – we will observe how the direction of the driven gear is opposite to the driver gear. Create a gear assembly as shown below





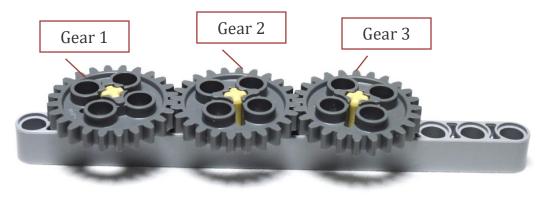
You will need the following parts

- □ 3 X 24-tooth gears
- \Box 3 X 2M connector peg with axle
- 🗆 1 X 13M beam





Answer the questions below



If Gear 1 is rotated in clockwise direction, fill in the following blanks?

- 1. Gear 2 rotates in ______ direction.
- 2. Gear 3 rotates in ______ direction.





ACTIVITY < Gear Claw >

In this activity, we will make an assembly that is like a crab claw. The claw opening and closing is synchronized using gears. Additionally, the claws are opened and closed by subjecting an axle to a torque.

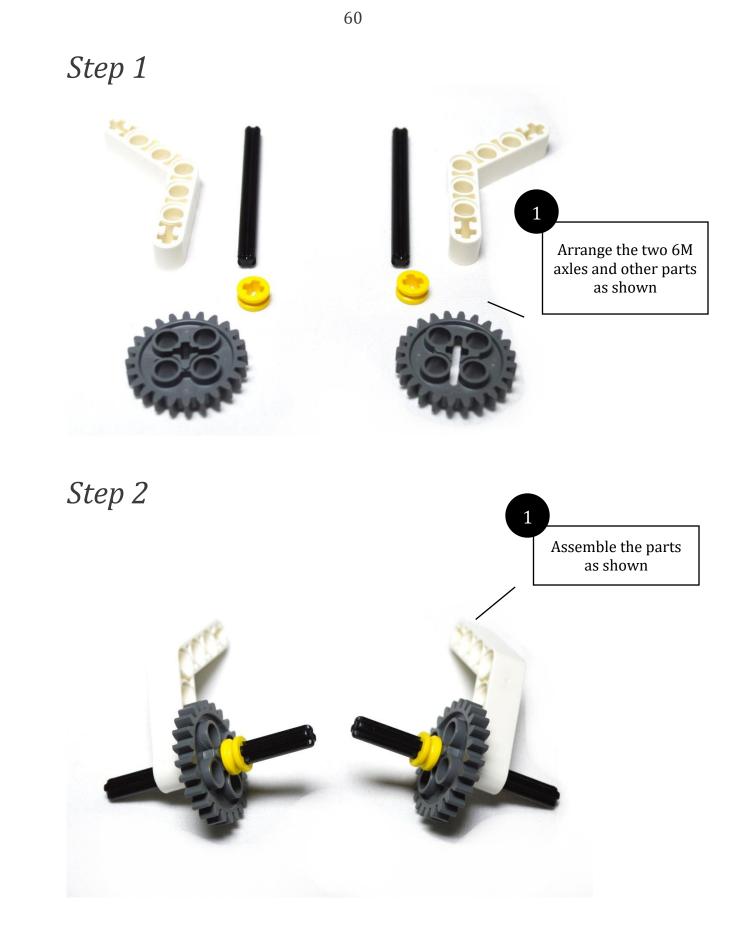


You will need the following parts

- \Box 2 X 24-tooth gears
- \Box 1 X 8-tooth gear
- \Box 6 X $^{1\!\!/_{\!\!2}}$ M bushings
- \square 2 X 6M axles
- \Box 1 X 12M axle
- \Box 1 X 10M axle
- □ 1 X 9M beam
- \Box 2 X 4x4 angular beam

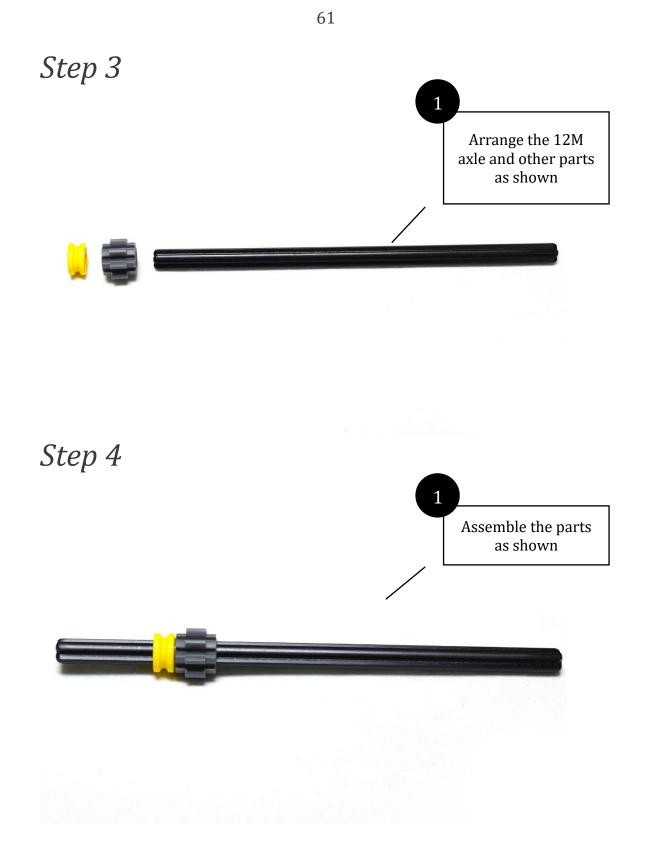






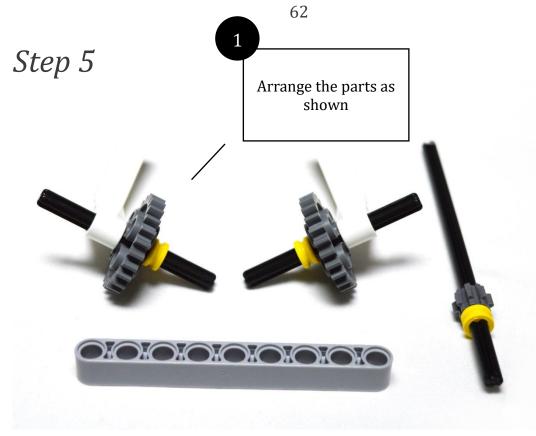


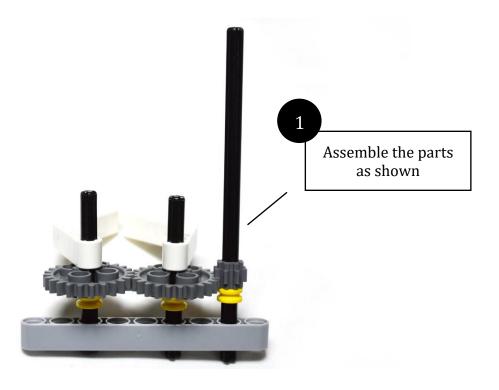






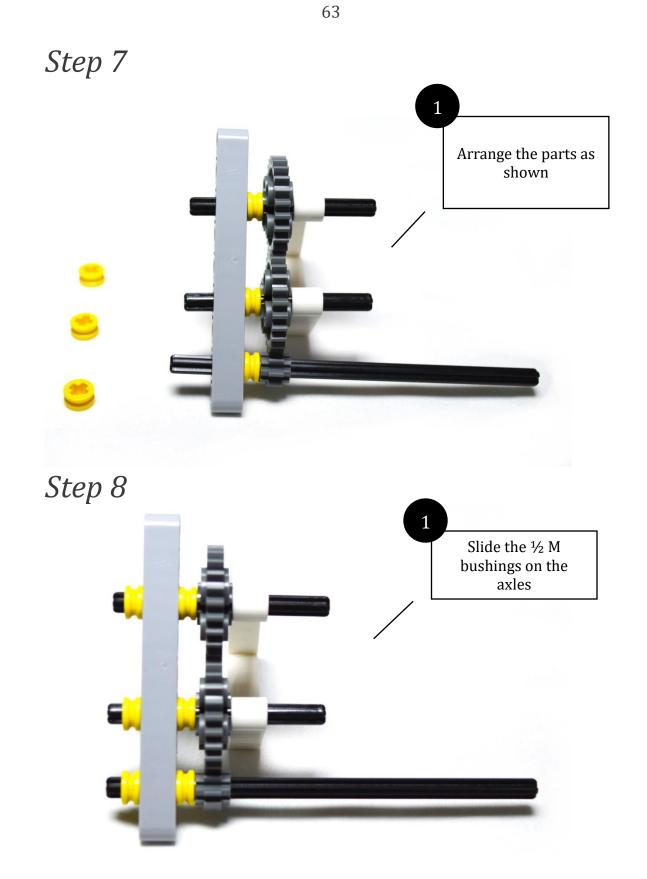


















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ACTIVITY < Gear Ratio >

Let's define the term *gear ratio*: gear ratio is **the number of teeth of the driver gear to the number of teeth of the driven (follower) gear**. In addition, the **revolutions per minute (RPM) of the driven gear equals gear ratio time the RPM of the driver gear**. Thus

 $GearRatio = \frac{NumberOfTeethOfDriver}{NumberOfTeethOfDriven}$ $RPM_{Driven} = GearRatio * RPM_{Driver}$

Consider an example case below, gear one has 24 teeth and gear two has 40 teeth. Additionally, gear one which is the driver gear has an RPM of 10 – if we were to calculate the RPM of gear 2 we will follow the following steps:



Gear ratio =
$$\frac{24}{40}$$
 and RPM_{Gear2} = $\frac{24}{40} * 10 = 6$

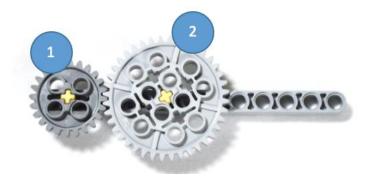
That is for every 10 revolutions of gear 1, gear 2 will have 6 revolutions.





Answer the questions below

1) Once again gear one has 24 teeth and gear two has 40 teeth. Gear one is the driver gear has an RPM of 20– calculate the RPM of gear 2:



Gear ratio = — and RPM_{Gear2} =

Thus, for every 20 revolutions of gear 1, gear 2 will have ______ revolutions.

Once again gear one has 24 teeth and gear two has 40 teeth. However, gear two is the driver gear and it has an RPM of 10 – calculate the RPM of gear :



Gear ratio = — and RPM_{Gear1} = — * 10 =

Thus, for every 10 revolutions of gear 2, gear 1 will have ______ revolutions.

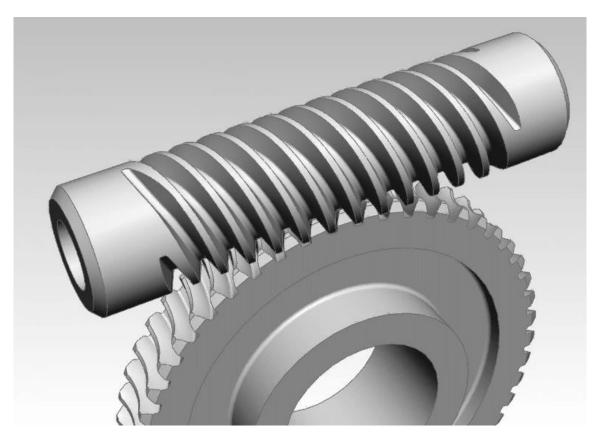




ACTIVITY < Fork Attachment >

A worm gear is a screw that turns a spur gear with its axle at right angle. A worm gear creates a high gear ratio. Each time the worm gear shaft spins one revolution, the spur gear moves one tooth forward. The worm gear has an unusual advantage of self-locking - <u>you can turn the worm gear shaft to drive the output shaft, but you cannot turn the output shaft to drive the worm gear shaft.</u>

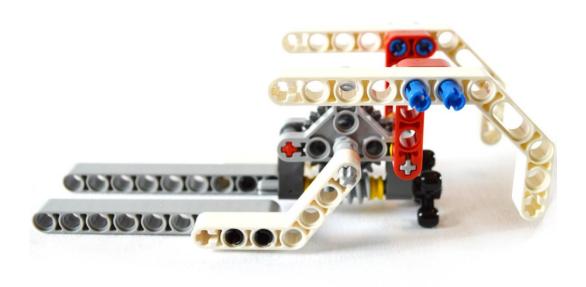
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In this activity, we will create a fork attachment that can be powered up or down by applying torque to the axel of the assembly. The final bot will look like the one shown below.





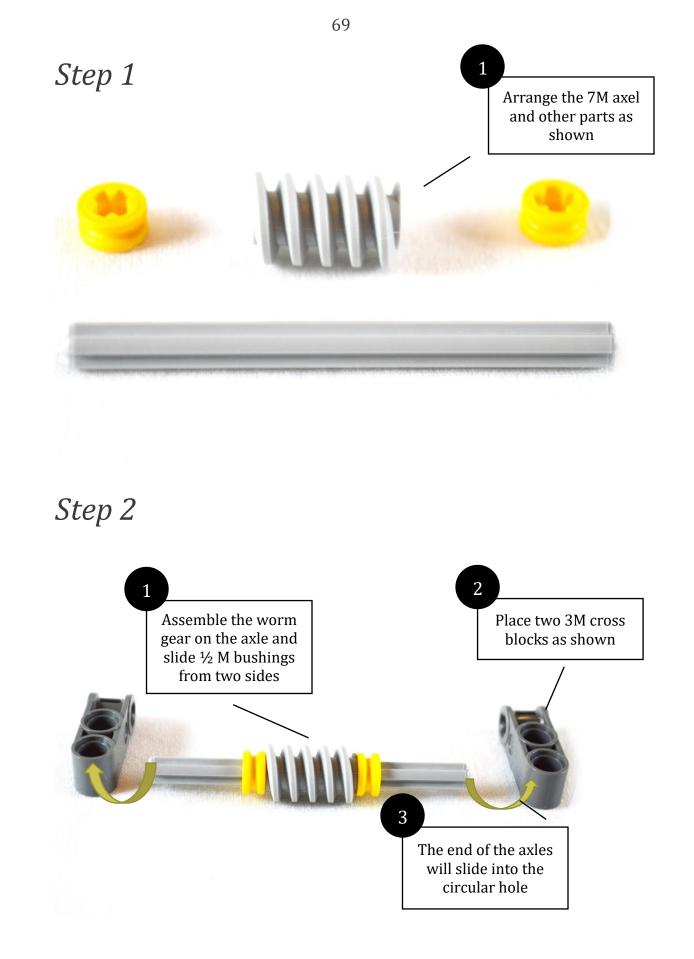


Find the following from your Mindstorms kit (refer to the EV3 parts list for identifying shapes with names) – you may follow the steps provided in following pages.

□ 2 X 9 M beams	□ 2 X 3x7M double angular beam
□ 2 X 4x4M angular beams	\square 4 X 3M connection peg with friction
\square 4 X 2M peg with friction	2 X 2x4 angular beams
🗆 1 X 4-tooth gear	□ 2 X ½ triangle beam 5x3M
🗆 1 X worm gear	□ 4 X ½ M bushing
🗆 1 X 2M axle	□ 2 X 1M bushing
🗆 1 X 24-tooth gear	□ 2 X 7M axles
□ 2 X 3M cross blocks	□ 1 X 5M axle

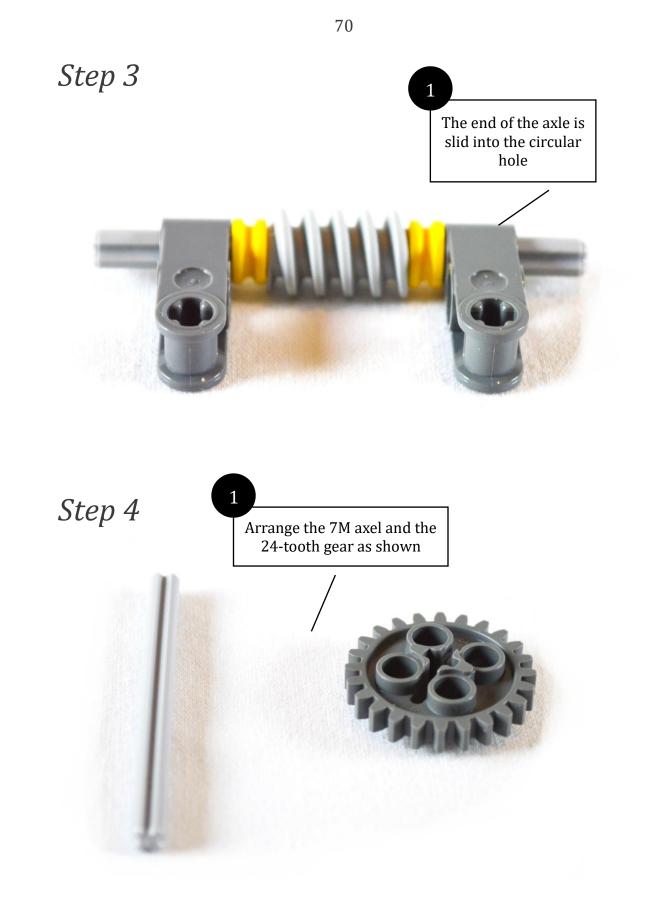






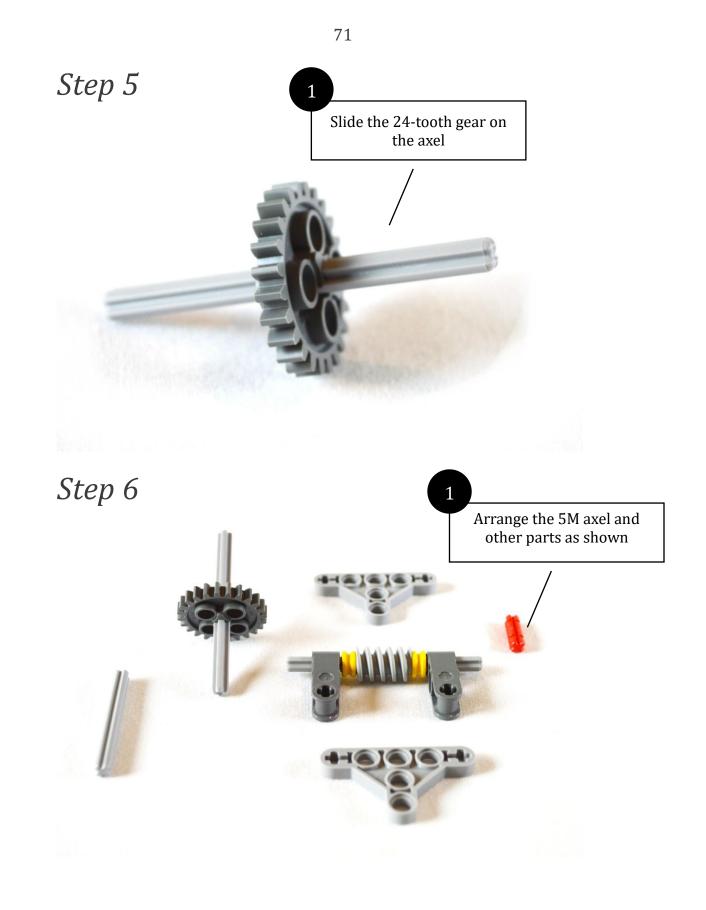






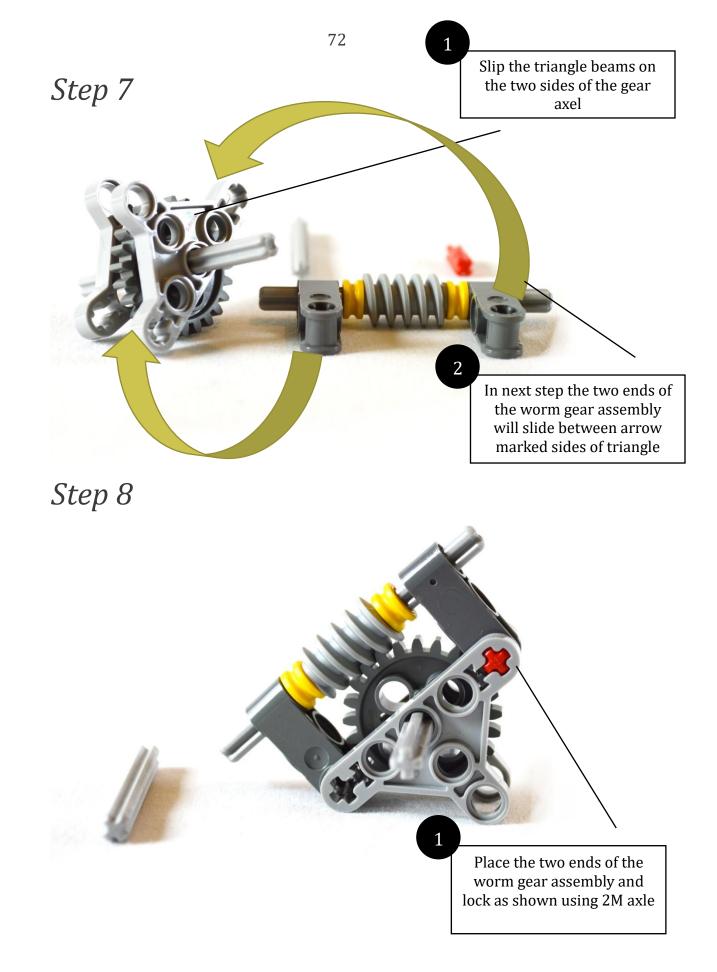






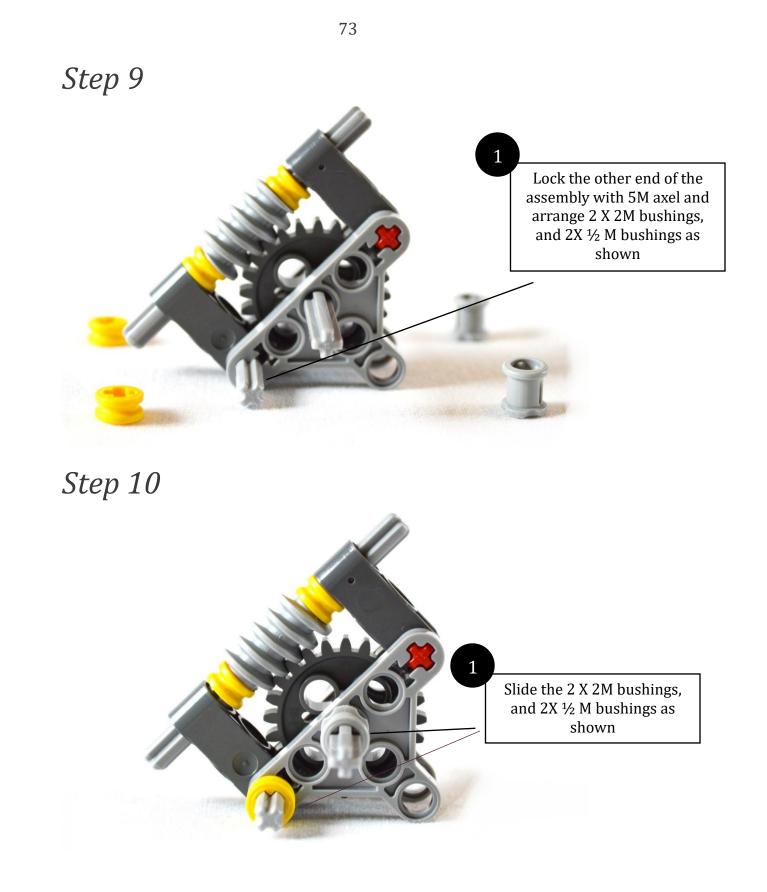






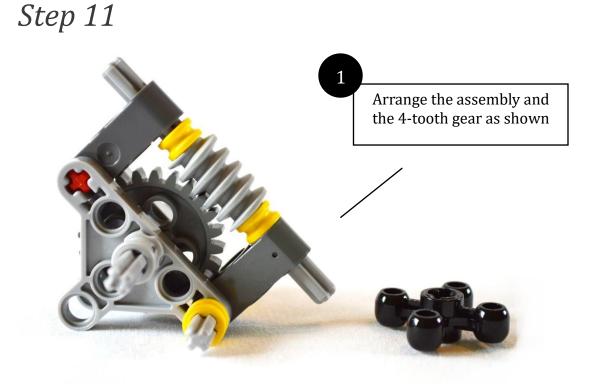


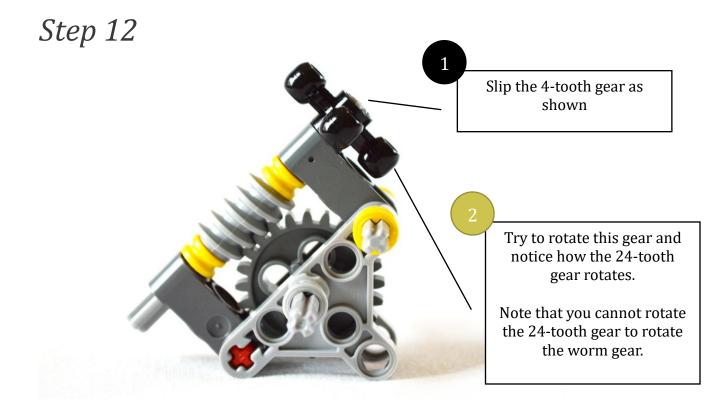






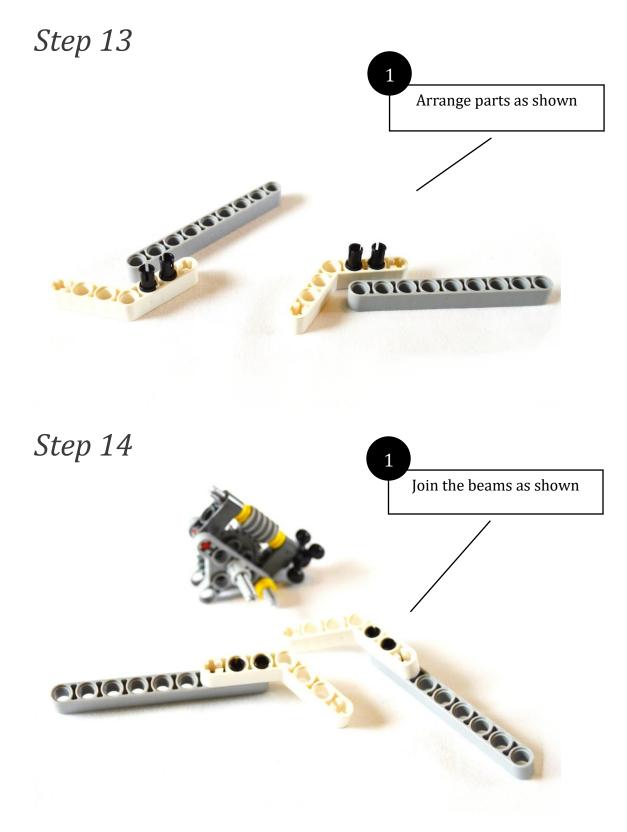






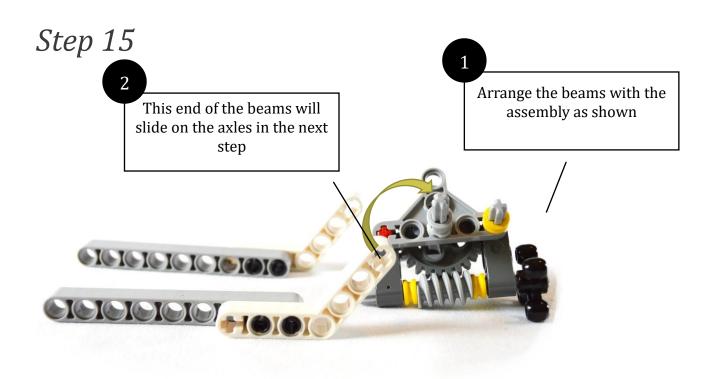




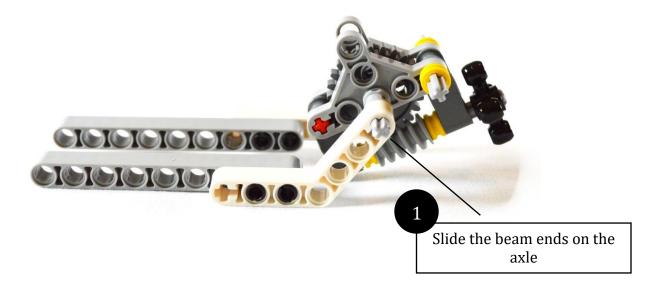






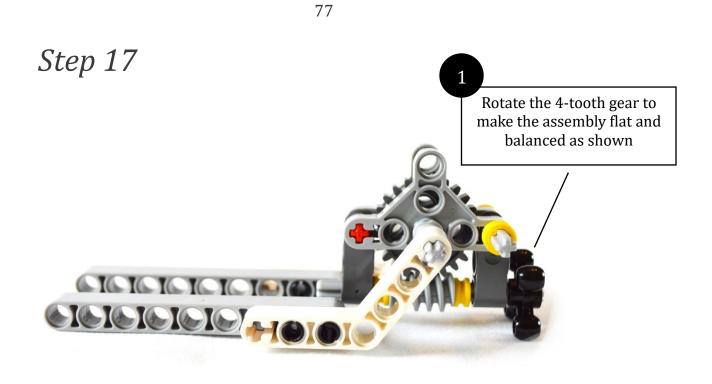


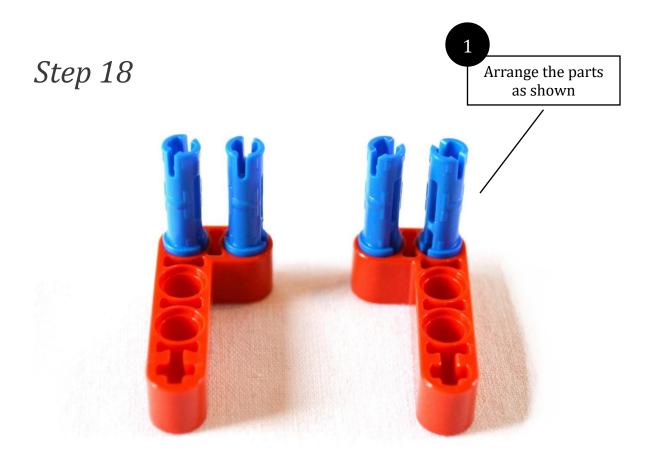
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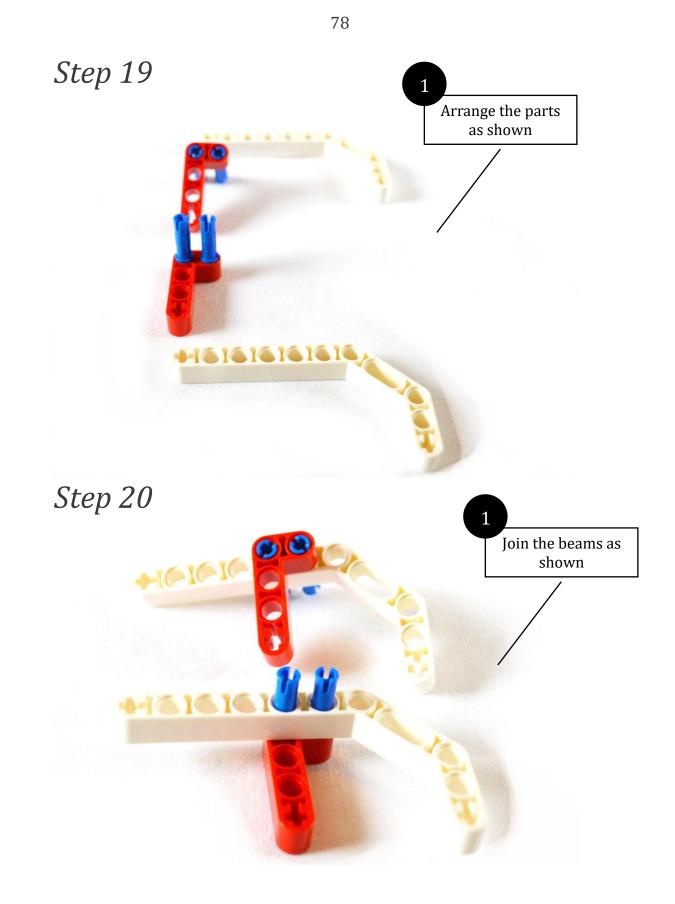






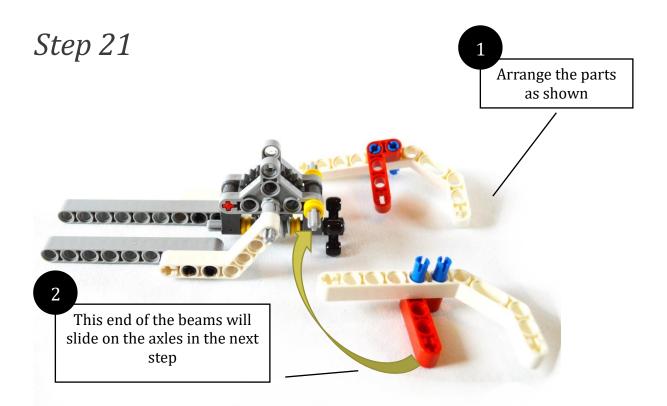


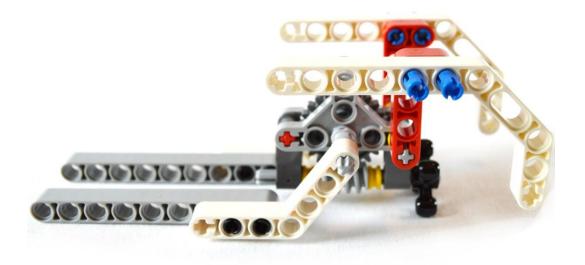










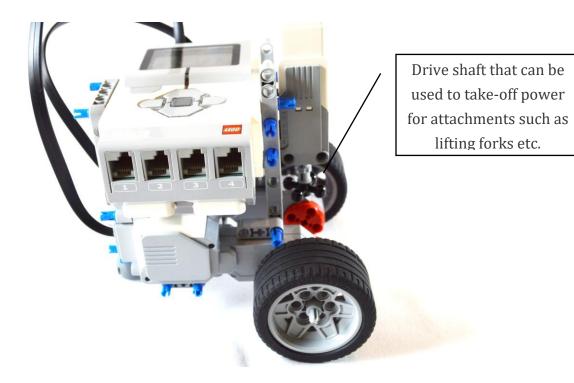






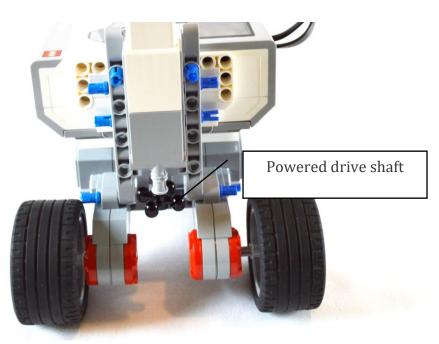
ACTIVITY < dsBot >

In this activity, we will modify the simBot by adding a drive shaft (we will call it ds**Bot**) so that powered attachments such as lifting forks can be supported by this bot – be creative and add to the design if you want.



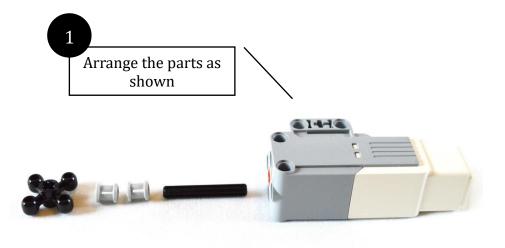






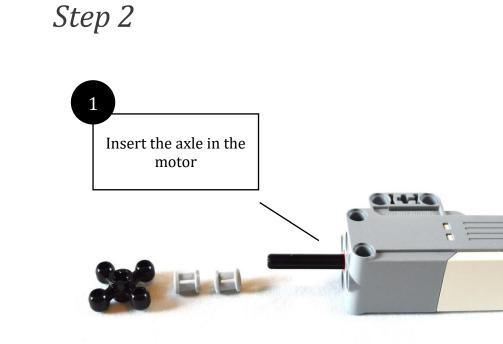
Find the following from your Mindstorms kit – you may follow the steps below.

□ 1 X 4 tooth gear
 □ 2 X 1M bushing
 □ 1 X 4M axle
 □ 4 X 3M connection peg with friction
 □ 1 X medium motor

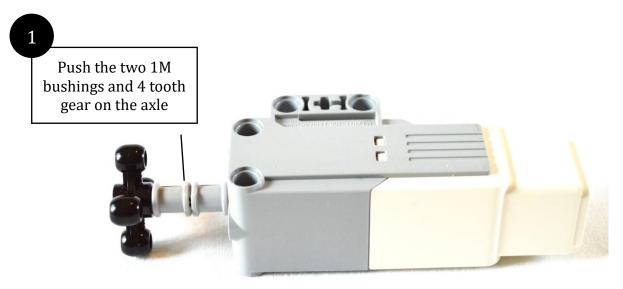






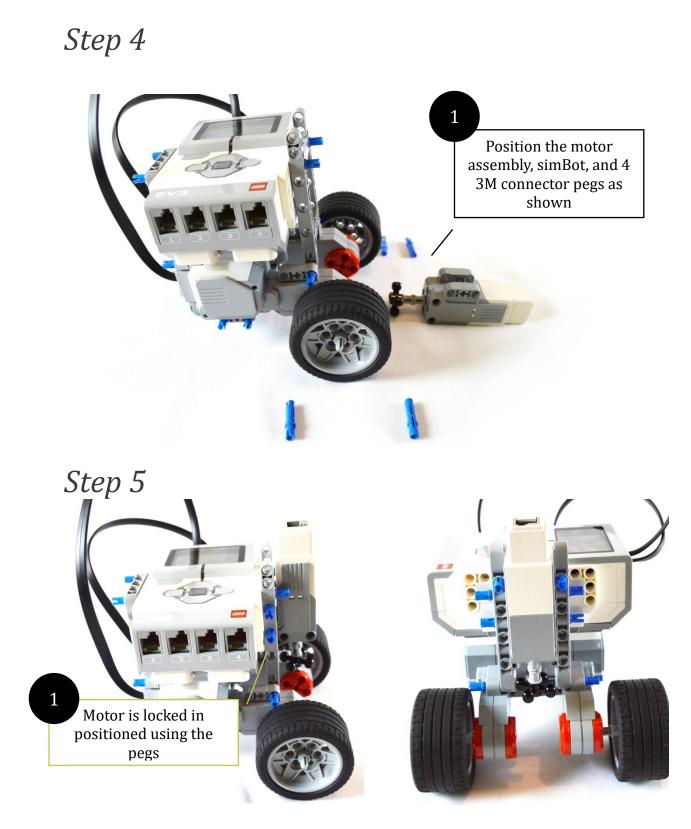


Step 3







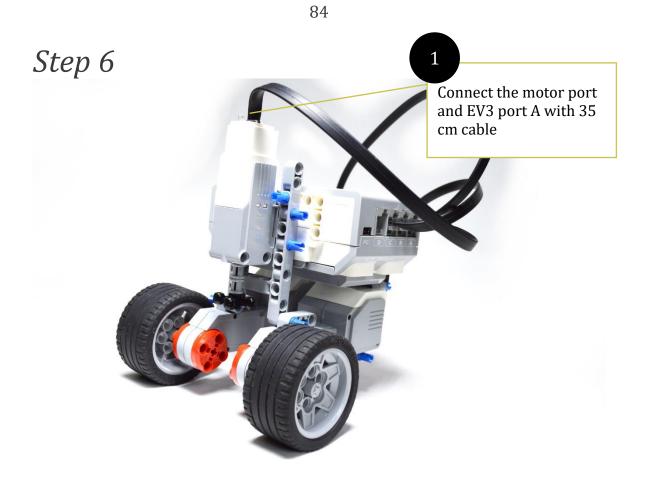


View from side

View from front





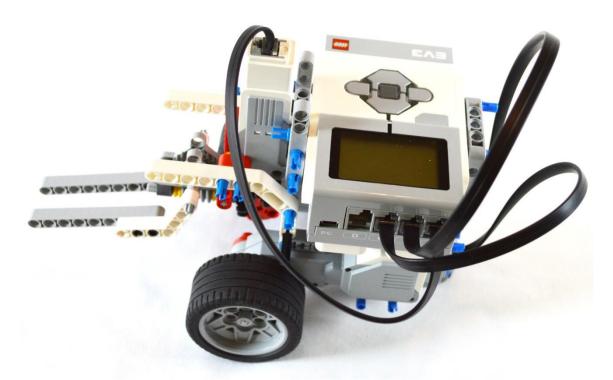






ACTIVITY < forkBot >

In this activity, we will take the ds**Bot** and attach the fork attachment. We call it fork**Bot**

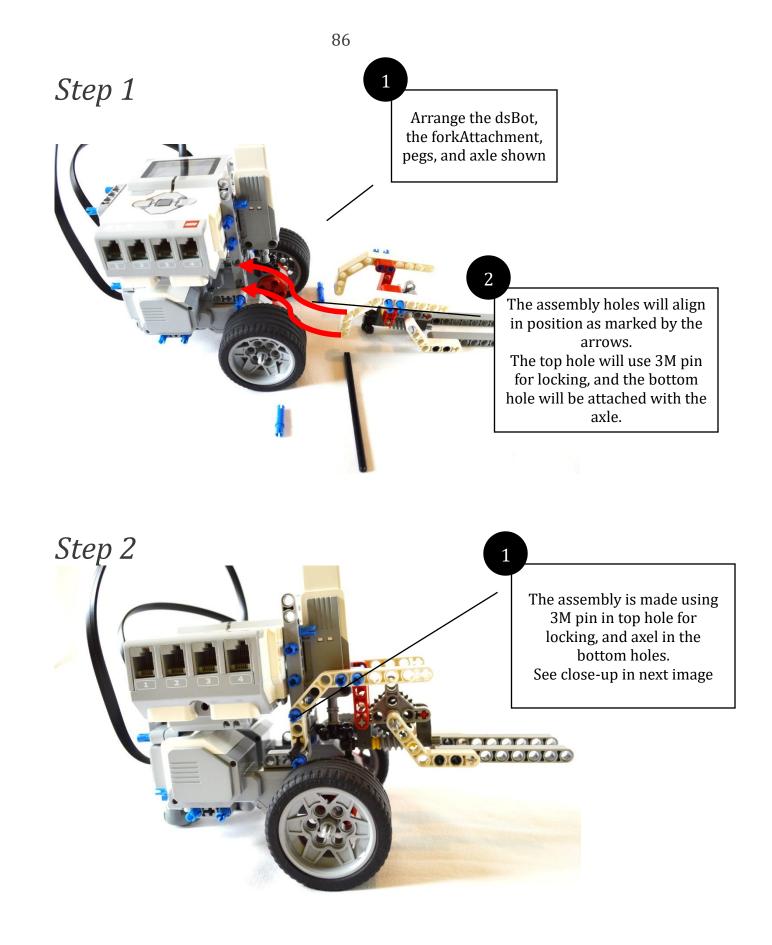


You will need the following assemblies and parts

- \Box dsBot
- \Box forkAttachment
- \square 2 X 3M peg with friction
- □ 1 X 10M axle

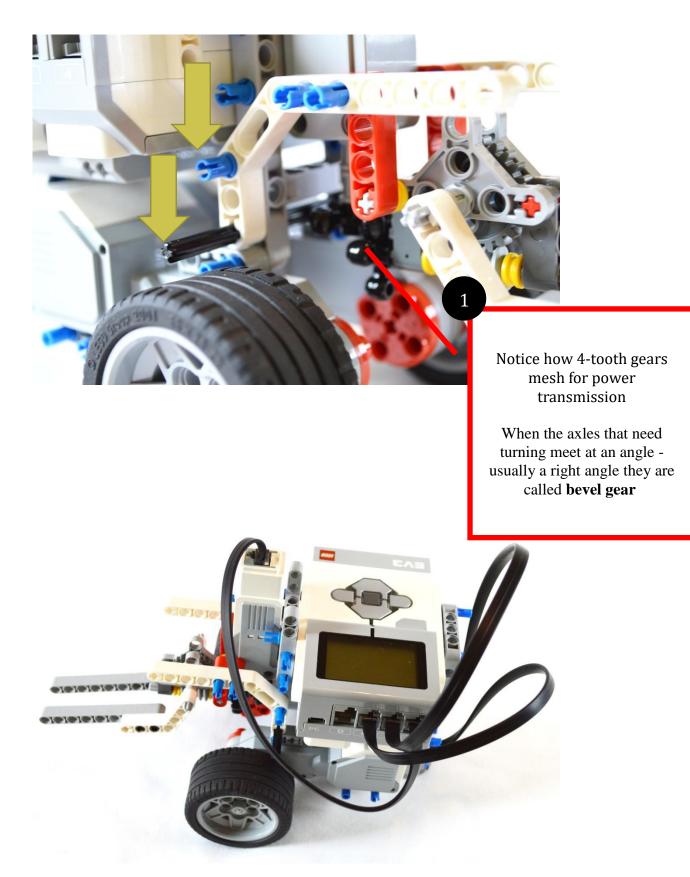












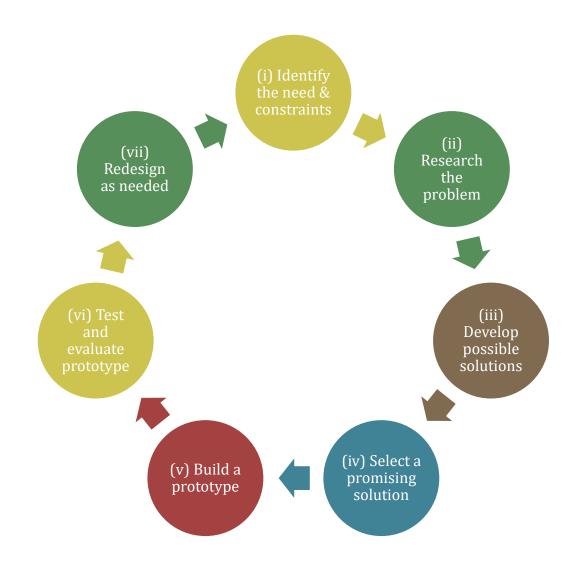




ACTIVITY < Engineering Design Process >

Problem solving is a fun and creative process where we can apply technology to create solutions that meet the defined set of needs. A process called an **Engineering Design Process** can immensely help in meeting our desired goals. The Engineering Design Process guides us through a step-by-step method for finding solutions, these steps include

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Think about the Maze challenge that you worked on and write down if there were tasks that you performed during that activity that fall under the different steps of the Engineering Design Process.

1. **Identify the need & constraints** – what are our needs, and what is the problem that we are trying to solve?

2. **Researching the problem** – *find what is known about the problems, how others have tried to solve this problem, are their similar problems that may have a solution that we can use as an inspiration?*

3. **Develop possible solutions** – think about how you may solve the problem, discuss with your team members and mentors, draw your ideas on the paper, draw on a computer, write your ideas. Create many different possible solutions





4. **Select a promising solution** – from the solutions that you designed in the previous step, select one that will most likely solve the problem best

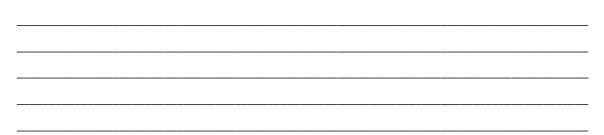
5. **Build a prototype** – *start bringing your idea into a reality, for example if the solution is building a robot then build a robot*

6. **Test and evaluate prototype** – *test to see if the prototype can solve the problem that you had defined. Write down the things that it does well and things that it does not do well*





7. **Redesign as needed** – Using your observations about what worked well and what did not work well, make changes to your solution. Repeat the steps to improve your solution over time

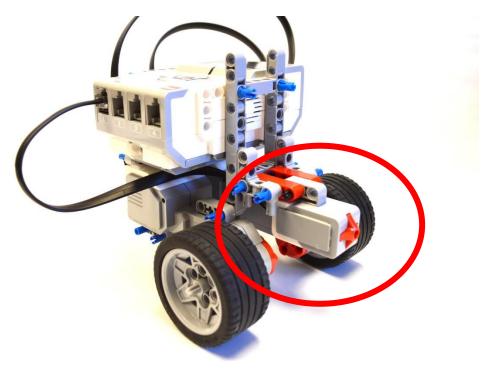






ACTIVITY < Touch Sensor >

A touch Sensor is a simple tool that can be used as a button, an obstacle sensor, or to count the number of presses of the button. You can use the button to start or stop something. In this activity, we will use it to find when the bot hits an obstacle.

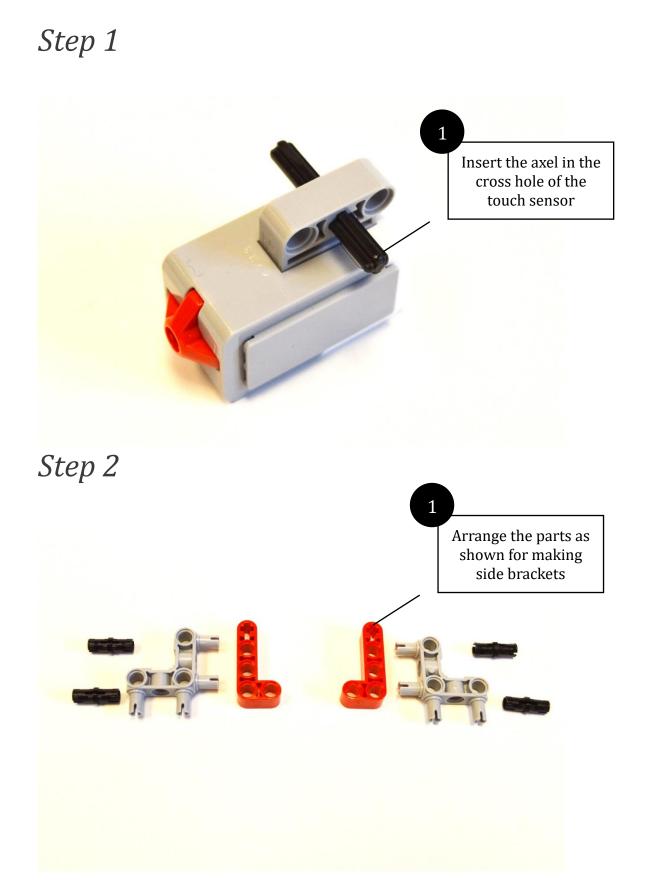


Find the following from your Mindstorms kit (refer to the EV3 parts list for identifying shapes with names) –follow the steps provided in following pages.

- □ 1 X touch sensor
- \Box 2 X 2x4M angular beams
- \Box 4 X 3M peg with friction
- \Box 1 X 4M axel
- \Box 2 X 3X3 angular connector peg
- \Box 1 X 2M axle
- \Box 1 cable

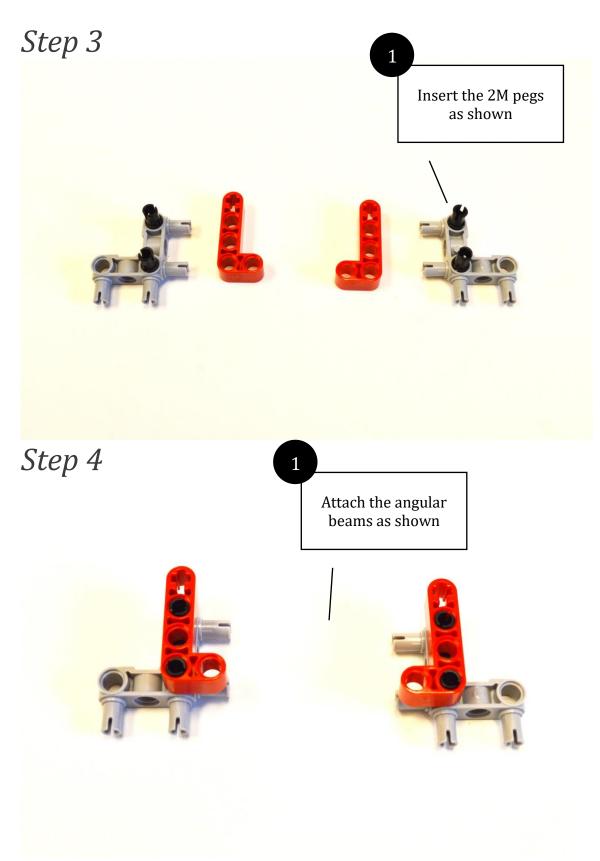






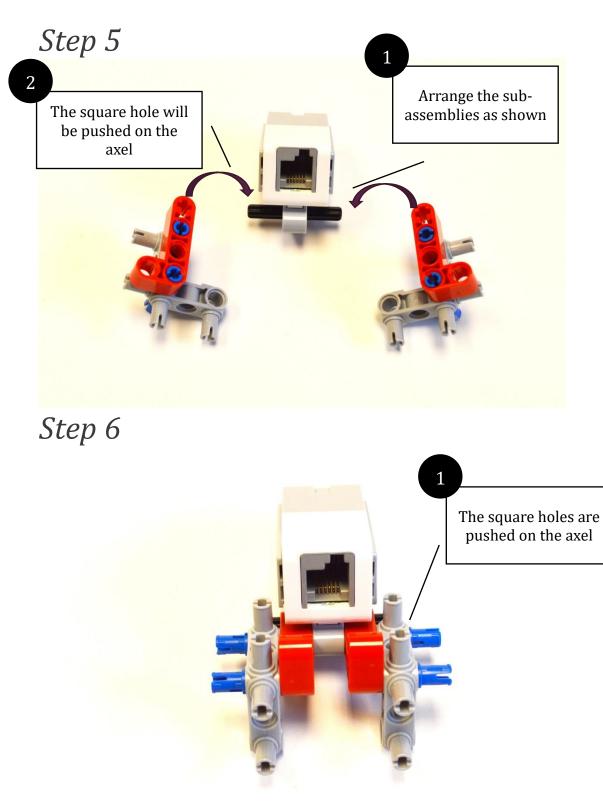






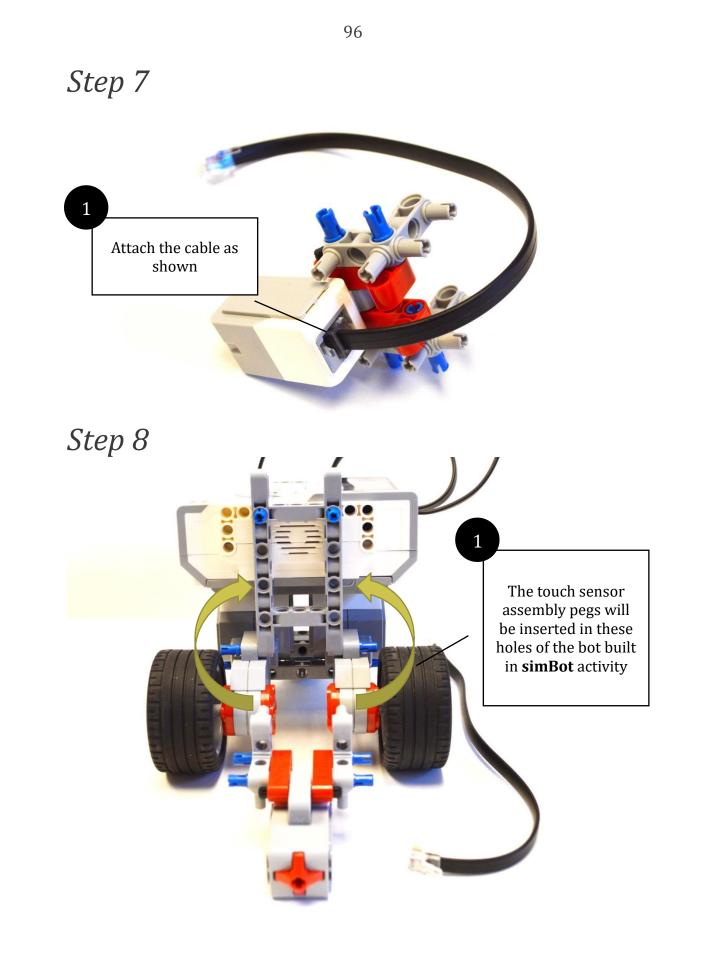






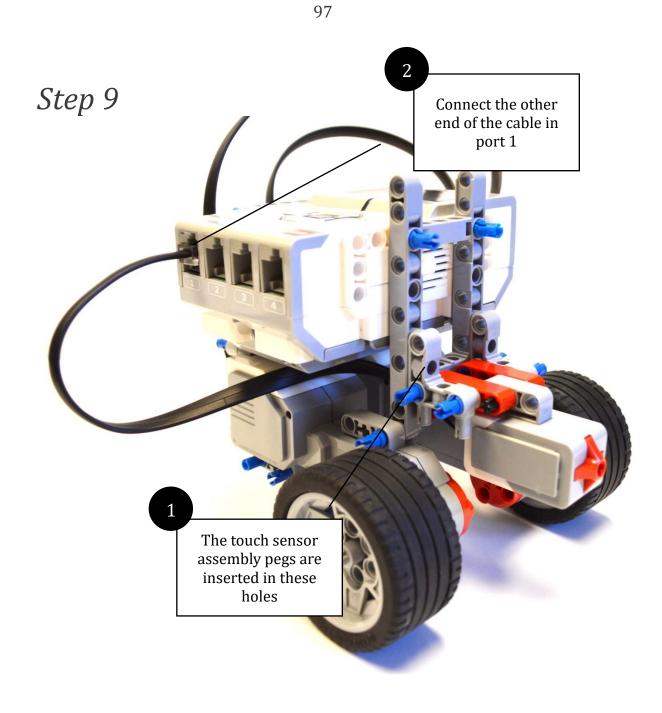










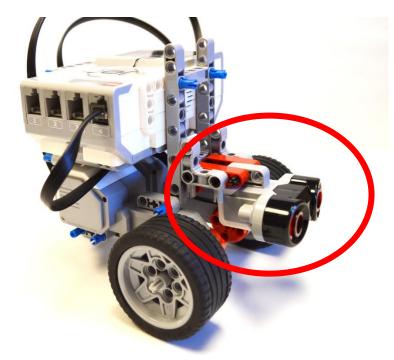






ACTIVITY < Ultrasonic Sensor >

The challenge is shown using the image below. The bot must navigate through the maze from the starting position to the ending position. In the first case the robot will turn before hitting a wall.



Find the following from your Mindstorms kit (refer to the EV3 parts list for identifying shapes with names) –follow the steps provided in following pages.

- □ 1 X ultrasonic sensor □ 2 X 2x4M angular beams
- \Box 4 X 3M peg with friction
- \square 1 X 4M axel
- □ 2 X 3X3 angular connector peg
- \Box 1 X 2M axle
- \Box 1 cable





