

# Hard Plastic Wheel

## *Conservation of Angular Momentum – Activity 3*

**Estimated Time for Activity:** ~5 minutes

**Optional Objectives:**

*The students will:*

- Gain insight into the concept of angular momentum and conservation thereof

**Materials:**

- Hard plastic wheel

**Optional Vocabulary:**

- Angular momentum
- Moment of inertia
- Angular velocity

**Procedures:**

- Start with the plastic wheel not spinning.
- Ask the students if you spun the wheel while it was held upright what would happen when you let it go and held it by only a string.
- Spin the wheel and demonstrate that it stays standing up.

**Optional Post-Activity Question(s):**

- What causes the hard plastic wheel to stay standing up?