

1

Two groups, one rule

Tip a tray of mixed objects out between two hoops and sort the first few yourself, saying the rule as a question with two answers. Does it have wheels. Everything that does goes in this hoop, everything that does not goes in that one, and nothing stays on the tray.

"Does it have wheels? If it does, it goes here. If it does not, it goes there."

"Which hoop does this one belong in?"

Gather the collection up and sort the same objects again on a different question. The objects have not changed, so what changed is the question, and that is the thing to name.

2

Only two groups

Students want to start a third pile for the tricky ones, and they want to argue about an object that fits both a little. Say both of those out loud before they happen. A yes or no question has two answers, so there are two hoops and no in between pile.

"This one is a bit of both. Our question still has only two answers, so we have to choose."

"We are using two hoops today, not three. Nothing sits on the line."

Put one card between the two hoops. Every object goes in the yes hoop or the no hoop.

Is it blue?

Is it a button?

Is it big?

Is it round?

Does it have holes?

Is it green?

Put one label beside each hoop before you start.

yes

no