



## A dotty talk

### Why use this task?

Use this image to get students making individual and collaborative observations that involve odd and even numbers.

**Duration:** 15 minutes

**Materials:** A physical or virtual copy of the dot image (attached)

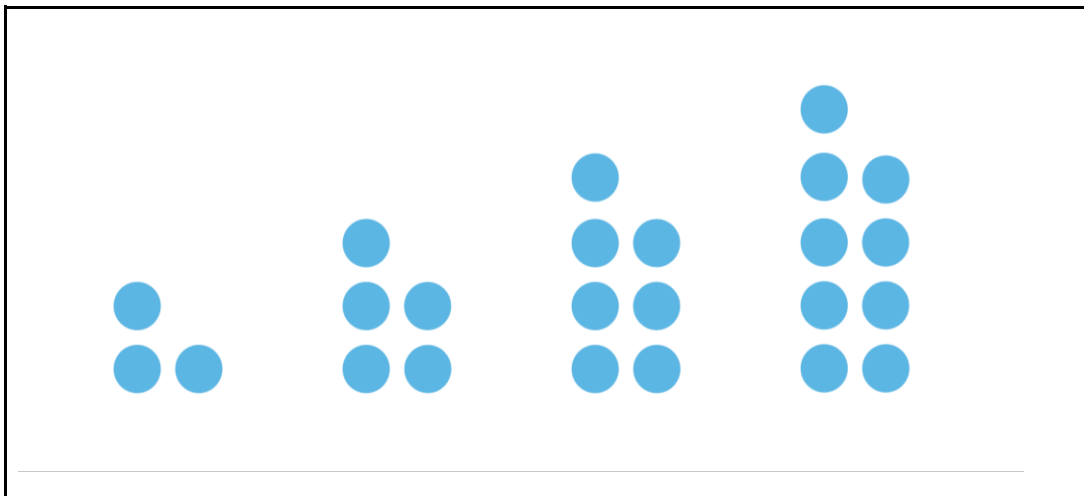
### Activity:

Gather students together for a classroom talk. Reveal the visual prompt and pose the question pair: *What do you notice? What do you wonder?*

Provide 30 to 60 seconds of quiet think time. Ask students to refrain from putting their hand up during this time; encourage them to spend the whole time noticing and wondering.

After the think time, facilitate the sharing of ideas. Ask:

*What's one thing you noticed or wondered? Who'd like to start the discussion?*



### Ideas shared might include:

- I notice four stacks of blue dots.
- I notice altogether there are 24 dots.
- I wonder why they're all blue.
- I notice that all the numbers are odd. *Teacher: How did you know or see they were all odd? Well, there's always one without a partner on top of the dots that are in pairs.*



- I notice that even though each group is odd, the total number (24) is even.
- I notice a counting pattern: 3, 5, 7, 9. Each group has two more than that group before.
- I wonder why it doesn't start at 1.
- I notice that, if you rotate the first group and attach it to the last group it will make 12 (3 and 9). And if you do the same to the second (rotate and attach it) to the third group it will make 12 as well (5 and 7).

