



MIT Citycar, 2003-present
William J. Mitchell, Smart Cities Principle Investigator, William Lark, Jr., Principle Designer with project assistants (please see exhibit and website for full listing); Smart Cities group of MIT Media Laboratory. United States, 2009-10. Courtesy of designers. Photo courtesy of Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum. [1/2-scale prototype]

COOL CULTURE

Stop and Go: A Car for City Living

Exploring the MIT City Car from the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum

Look Closely and Discuss:

- How is this car different from other cars that you have seen? How is it the same?
- How many wheels do cars have? Count the ones that you see on this car, and the ones that you know are there.
- Two people can sit in this car for short trips. If this were your car, where would you go in it?
- How else can you get from one place to another besides taking a car?



Did you know?

- ✓ There are over 4 million cars in NYC.
- ✓ This small car is not yet commercially available. It is being designed for people living in cities to rent out for short trips. It runs on inexpensive electricity and doesn't create any pollution!
- ✓ This car folds up when it parks to make room for other cars.
- ✓ Each wheel has its own separate motor. That allows the car to drive sideways, which is great for parallel parking and changing lanes on tight city streets. It can spin in a complete circle, replacing difficult-to-make U-turns with easy "O-turns".

Explore further:

Neighborhood Walk

Take a walk to look at the cars in your neighborhood. Name the colors of cars that you see. Count how many you see of each color.

Design-Your-Own

Talk to your child about designing their own imaginary car. How many people would it need to hold? What special things would they want it to do? Have them draw a picture of their car using the worksheet on the next page or make it out of play-dough.

Visit the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum with your Cool Culture Family Pass

2 East 91st Street at Fifth Avenue
(212) 849-8400 www.ndm.si.edu

Celebrate the creative nature of design and explore its impact on the quality of our everyday lives.

