



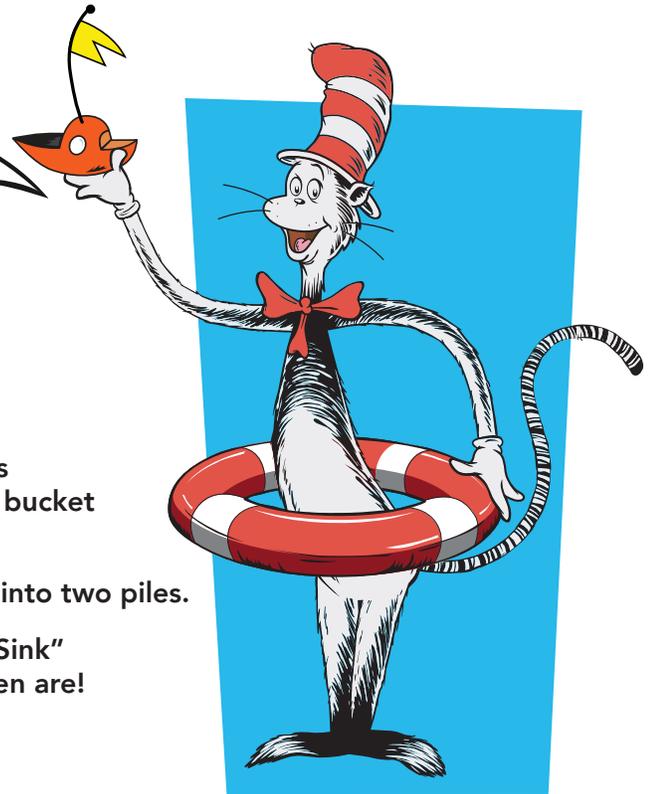
What Floats Your Boat?



Predict and discover what sinks or floats!

During a trip to the Buoyant Sea, Sally and Nick test what sinks or floats. They learn that materials and shapes matter. What do you think will float? Test out your predictions using items from around the house and the printable Table.

To PREDICT is to say what you think will happen before you try it out. I predict you will have a boat-load of fun predicting what sinks and floats!



Instructions

1. Print the Sink or Float Table (on the following page). If you are playing with a friend, print two.
2. With the help of an adult, gather ten small household items (rubber band, coin, pencil, sticker, etc.) and fill up a sink or bucket with water.
3. Predict whether the items will sink or float by sorting them into two piles.
4. Test your predictions in the water. Place each item under "Sink" or "Float" on the Table. Were you surprised? Scientists often are!

More Ways to Play

1. Can you change something that sinks into something that floats? Or something that floats into something that sinks? How did you do it?
2. At first, Sally and Nick think certain colors float. What do you think? Find ten, similar-colored items and predict whether they will sink or float. Now test and record your results with the Sink or Float Table. Does color matter? If not, what does?
3. After testing and placing your items on the Sink or Float Table, explain to a friend or family member why you think some items float and others sink.

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Does it sink or
does it float?



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Sink

Float

