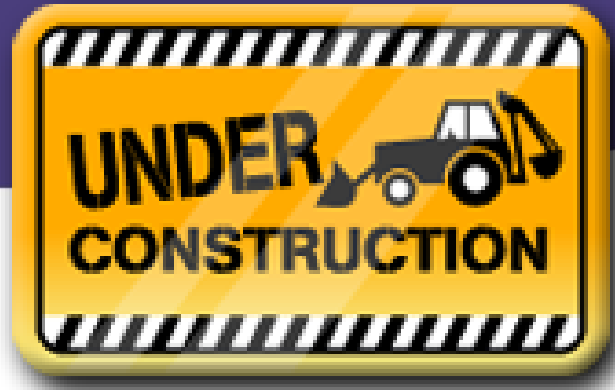


Make It Float

Use your creativity to determine
Which shapes float the best!



Ages: All ages

Time: 30 minutes

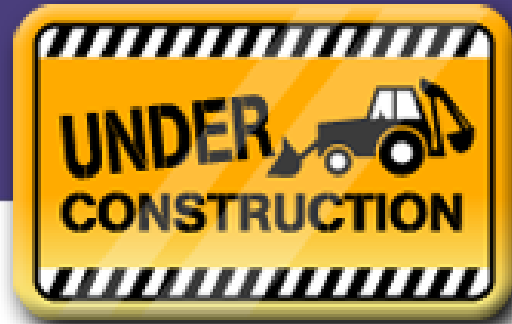
Materials Needed:

Small bag with regular size popsicle sticks (150), tub with water, 1 roll of masking tape

Instructions:

1. At a large table have all supplies ready for members.
2. Have members sit and decide which 3 shapes they would like to test out.
3. Give them the Popsicle sticks and masking tape and instruct them that they are to keep in mind that the shapes must float and withstand holding weight. Have them begin constructing the first shape.
4. Once constructed have them test the floating capability of the shape in the tub of water.
5. Then have them add additional Popsicle sticks to the floating shape, in order to see if it will withstand weight. Have them record the number of sticks it

Make It Float



held in order to compare results of other shapes.

6. Repeat the above steps for each of the shape members construct.
7. Have members discuss the results of the exercise.

Extension Ideas:

During the activity, groups may find that the popsicle sticks absorb water. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce the concepts of absorbent and nonabsorbent materials. Have the groups brainstorm around the question, what materials absorb water and what materials do not? If possible, leave the popsicle sticks in the tub of water overnight and observe what happens.

If time allows, allow groups to experiment with recycled materials to test their absorption against floatability. (Examples: Soda cans, plastic water bottles, cardboard, etc.)

Submitted By:

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