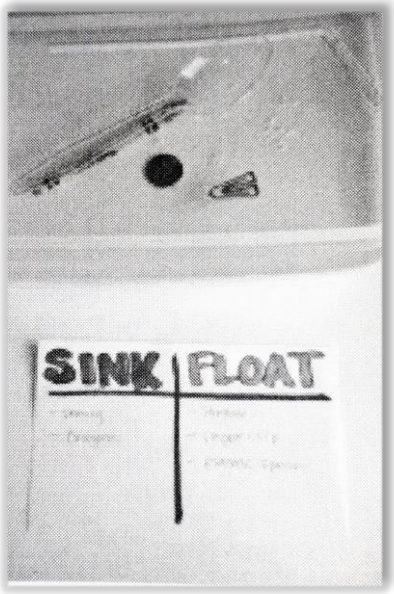
Experiment title: Sink or Float

Grades: Kindergarten- 3rd grade



Do toothpicks float? Does a plastic spoon float? Find out which types of objects float and sink. Make a hypothesis about what you think will happen to each object and find out if your hypothesis is correct through this experiment.

Research: You will want to learn about why things sink or why they float so that you will be able to make a hypothesis before starting your experiment.

Materials list:

- Plastic dishpan
- Newspaper-
- 5-7 small household items. Example Paper clip, plastic spoon, coin, toothpick, sponge etc….. (Hint… you will make your hypothesis about whether these items will sink or float).
- Notebook or binder paper--- This is where you will keep your data about what happens during your experiment.
- Pencil or pen to write with.
- 2 sheets of construction paper.

Procedure:

1. To set up for the project, place the newspaper on the table. Write the work “Sink” on one sheet of construction paper and the word “Float” on the other. Put the objects (paperclip toothpick etc...) on the newspaper.
2. Place each object on the paper that matches your hypothesis. For example if you think a toothpick will float you will place that on the float paper.
3. Divide a piece of binder paper into third vertically. Draw each object in the left column of your paper and write your hypothesis (sink or float) next to each object in the middle column of the paper. The right column of your paper is where you will write the results. So go ahead and label that column “results”.
4. Add some water to the dishpan. Choose one of the objects and place it in the water. Observe whether it sinks or floats and record the results on the binder paper next to your hypothesis for the item. Repeat for the remaining objects.
5. Make sure that you test each of your items 3 times for accurate results.
6. Compare your hypothesis for the item with the result. Do any of them not match? Why do you think that is? Your thoughts on this will become part of your conclusion.
7. Turn your data into a chart for your display.