



PRE-SCHOOL LESSON PLAN

CONTENT AREA(S): Science

TOPIC: Sink or Float

GRADE LEVEL: Pre-School

SEASHORE SCIENCE CENTER: TBD

STANDARDS:

- .02 Children exhibit positive interaction with other children and adults.
- 2.4 Children will show competence in fine motor skills.
- RL.PK.4 Answer questions about unfamiliar words in a read aloud.
- 5.1 Inquiry
- 5.2 Observe and manipulate objects

LEARNING TARGETS:

Students will be able to:

- Explore density
- Manipulate clay into a shape of a boat to determine if it will float

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS: N/A

KEYWORDS: Sink, Float

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

- Light modeling clay (not play dough or earth clay)
- Small plastic tubs
- Slices of bread
- Towels, old t-shirts, or aprons

PROCEDURES:

1. Pre-Reading Who Sank the Boat by Pamela Allen.
2. Pre-Activity Give each pair of students a paper bag, and say, "We are going to walk to the creek to collect small objects to see if those objects will sink or float. With the help of aides or parents, walk the students down to the creek. Make sure students have a variety of objects: stones, shells, leaves, etc. (Ask a parent to collect as well to ensure each student has a variety of objects.)"
3. Teacher will say, "Of all the things you collected today/yesterday, which one do you think floats?" When you get to an object that does not float, ask. "Why do you think the shell/stone does not float?" (Teachers should have aides/parents assisting.)
4. Next the teacher will take the slice a bread and place it in a tub of water. (The bread should float.) Then the teacher will squeeze a slice of bread into a ball and place it in the tub of water. (The bread should sink.)
5. Then give each student a small tablespoon-size piece of clay. Say, "Make a ball with your clay." Once every student it done ask, "Will your ball of clay sink or float?" Then have the students place their clay balls in the tub of water. (The balls should sink.)
6. After the students remove their balls of clay from their tubs, say, "How can we get the piece of clay to float?" Then the teacher will model flattening her piece of clay by place it on the table and
7. pressing with her palm. Once all students are done ask the students to test their clay "boats" in their tub of water.

