



Float and Sink?



Will it float or sink?

What you need:

- A bucket or large jug of water (preferably transparent)
- A variety of items, some of which may sink and which will float including a boat

How you do it: gather a tray containing a mix of different items, holding up each item in turn and have the children guess if it will float or sink. Of course, you have to make sure that you've got items that'll do both! Let the children predict what they think will happen and then test out their predictions by placing the objects in the water.



Float and Sink

TO THE TUNE OF "I HAD A LITTLE TURTLE"



I had a little

I put it in my boat,

I tossed it in the water,

To see if it would float,

And do you know what happened?

Did it float or sink?

Stretch up high or bob down low,

To show me what you think.

Bubble, bubble, bubble...float/sink!

Bubble, bubble, bubble ...float/sink!

If you want more of a challenge:

Will an orange float or sink?

What you need:

A jug or vase $\frac{3}{4}$ filled with water.
An orange

How you do it: Make a prediction of whether you think the orange will float or sink. Drop the **orange** into water and it **floats!**

Now remove the peel from that same **orange** and it will **sink**.

*The unpeeled **orange floats** because the rind is very porous and filled with tiny pockets of air. Even though you're removing mass when you peel the **orange**, the peeled **orange** is denser and **sinks** in the water.*

❖ **Could you design a life jacket for your orange to stop it from sinking?**

