

What sinks and floats? Melanie Robbins

First Grade Standard 3- Students will develop an understanding of their environment.

Objective 2- Investigate water and interactions with water.

- compare objects that float and sink in water

ILO's display a sense of curiosity, demonstrate persistence in completing tasks, observe, sort and classify objects, and demonstrate problem-solving skills, and treat others with kindness and fairness.

Materials List-

sink and float materials for each group: tubs to hold water, cork, pencil, paper clip, rock, plastic spoon, crayon, penny, ball, plastic egg, sponge, clay

Mr. Gumpy's Outing, by John Burningham

Introduction to the Lesson:

Students gather on the rug. I have a tall vase filled with water. I show the students an orange and ask them will this sink or float. Students predict. Drop the orange in the water. It floats. Peel the orange then ask again. Do you think the orange now will sink or float? It sinks. Students predict. Why does something float or sink? Today we are going to be scientists and investigate with this bag of items what sinks and floats.

Lesson description:

- Students are divided into groups of four. Each group has a container of water, a bag of sink and float items, and a worksheet. Students predict which items will sink and which will float. Then they test their items in the container of water and record on their worksheet.
- Students come back to the rug. We make a t-chart to organize and sort sink and float items. We talk about the last item (a piece of clay). Why do you think some things float and some thing sink? Could we make this clay float?
- Then read the story Mr. Gumpy's Outing and ask the students if they could make a boat out of their clay that floats. Then they test it and see how many people (people shaped manipulatives) can fit on their boat before it sinks. Students record their thinking and observations in their water journal. Water journal writing: Write and draw something that sinks. Write and draw something that floats. What do you notice?
- Students again come back to the rug to debrief their results, observations and discoveries.