

# SCIENCE 4 ME



## Floating

Explore your world with this Science-4-Me adventure!



Computer fun!

[www.lovemyscience.com/cat\\_floating.html](http://www.lovemyscience.com/cat_floating.html)  
For more fun hands-on "Floating and Sinking!"

### Picture Books:

What Floats in a Moat? Lynne Berry  
Row, Row, Row Your Boat, Iza Trapani  
Magic School Bus, Ups and Down, Jane Mason  
The Toy Boat, Randall DeSeve  
Who Sank the Boat, Pamela Allen  
Float, Daniel Miyares  
Mr. Gumpy's Outing, John Burningham

### Early Readers

The Yellow Boat, Margaret Hillert  
Big Dog and Little Dog Go Sailing, Selina Young  
Titanic: the disaster that shocked the world!  
Mark Dubowski, ER 910.916 DUB

### In-Depth

Making Things Float and Sink, Gary Gibson, J 532.25 GIB  
What Floats? What Sinks? A look at density,  
Jennifer Boothroyd, J 532.25 BOO

### Non-fiction

How Does a Ship Float? Jim Pipe, J532.25 PIP  
Things that Float and Things that Don't, David Adler J 532.2 ALD  
Floating and Sinking, Ellen Niz, 532.25 NIZ  
Floating and Sinking, Jack Challoner, J 532 CHA

### LOCAL CONNECTION

#### Las Vegas Boat Harbor & Lake Mead Marina

[www.boatinglakemead.com](http://www.boatinglakemead.com)

Visit Lake Mead oldest Marina. The largest privately owned marina in the world, with just under 1500 slips in the Hemenway Harbor of Lake Mead. Complete with a floating restaurant, enjoy breakfast, lunch or dinner with a beautiful view of the boats.

#### Gibson Library

100 W Lake Mead Pkwy, 89015  
(702) 565-8402

#### Green Valley Library

2797 N Green Valley Pkwy, 89014  
(702) 207-4260

#### Paseo Verde Library

280 S Green Valley Pkwy, 89012  
(702) 492-7252

## Float or Sink?

# ACTIVITY!

Water is a wonderful resource for preschool learning. It can be used for all types of play and exploration. Ask your child if they know what it means to **float**. Relate this concept to swimming or bathing in a bathtub. Try the experiment below.

### What you need:

Aluminum foil; Bowl or sink filled with water; Scissors; Pennies

### Try this:

1. Drop a penny in the water. Does it float?
2. Cut a piece of foil to 5X6 inches. Shape a boat out of the foil.
3. Place your boat carefully in the water. Does it float? If not, work on your boat redesigning it until it floats.
4. Once your boat floats, try adding one penny carefully to your boat. Does the penny sink the boat?
5. Can you add more pennies to your boat? How many pennies can you add to your boat before it sinks? What are the pennies causing to happen, and why?



**Try another Floating and Sinking Activity:** Provide objects such as a cork, crayon, cotton ball, feather, small plastic toy boat, a metal toy such as a car, plastic Easter egg, paper, plastic straw, outdoor twigs, small bars of soap, a small balloon (blown up), and a crumpled ball of aluminum foil. Set up a large bowl filled with water. Ask your child to pick up an item and predict whether it will sink or float. Then place the object on top of the water and observe what happens. Stress the fact that it's not the size of the object that determines whether it will sink or float, the importance is what the object is made of.

**Electronic Resources**  
(download from [www.hendersonlibraries.com](http://www.hendersonlibraries.com))

The Everything Kids Science Experiments Book  
Tom Robinson  
Balloon Farm, William Dear  
The Titanic, Judy Donnelly  
Tonight on the Titanic, Magic Tree House,  
Mary Pope Osborn

*What's the connection between science and writing? Scientists are chronic writers! They write down hunches, observations, and they sketch whatever they are studying. Writing and sketching are important tools real scientists use to help themselves think.*

JOURNAL

Experiment with different boat designs--bigger, smaller pieces of foil. Design boats out of other material such as clay, cardboard etc. Have your child draw the boats and note if they floated or sank in the water. Can any of these boats float with pennies in them?

How many pennies?

What made the difference?