

WRITING PROMPT

5

FLOATING AND SINKING

Prompt

Write a letter to a friend describing the challenge of making a sinker float. Describe the clay boat designs that floated. End your letter by telling your friend what you've learned about sinking and floating.

Word Walls

*floating
sinking
weight
floating force
buoyant force
displace
gravity
plimsoll mark
density*

Writing Standards

- E2a – Report Writing
- E2b – Response to Literature
- E2c – Narrative Account
- E2d – Narrative Procedure

Science Standards

- S1 Physical Sciences Concepts
- S2 Life Sciences Concepts
- S3 Earth and Space Sciences Concepts
- S7 Scientific Communication

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FLOATING AND SINKING

Prompt

You have been given a ball of clay that sinks. Describe how you would change the clay to make it float. Include at least 3 specific changes to the ball of clay and explain why these changes make it float. Remember to make your explanation clear and concise.

Word Walls

*floating
sinking
weight
density
gravity
display*

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QUICK WRITES

GRADE 5

Floating and Sinking

Lesson No.

- 1 *Tell me what you know about sinking and floating.*
- 2 *Describe the difference between a prediction and a guess.*
- 3 *Predict what will happen if you fasten together a floater and a sinker.*
- 4 *Explain why spring scales are calibrated. Describe something you could measure with a spring scale.*
- 5 *Describe some of the difficulties you had when calibrating your spring scale.*
- 6 *Identify the similarities among the boat design that floated and those that sank.*
- 7 *You are a boat designer for America's cup. What design would you choose? Use at least 4 characteristics or properties.*
- 8 *How does the size and design of a boat affect its buoyancy?*
- 9 *Write and illustrate an advertisement for fishing bobbers.*
- 10 *List 3 facts you learned about Archimedes.*

11 *Describe how submerging an object completely underwater affect its weight.*

12 *Explain how you could measure the weight of water.*

13 *Predict what will happen when you mix salt and water. Explain why you think this will happen.*

14 *Explain the difference between salt and fresh water.*

15 *Tell me what you know about a hydrometer.*

16 *Explain why objects float.*

WORD WALL

Floating and Sinking

floating	sinking
density	weight
concept	represent
median	mean
specific weight	hydrometer
salinity	cylinders
saturated	buoyant force
plimsoll mark	gravity
mode	displace