

*Dear Family,*

In my class today, we experimented with sinking and floating, and we made rafts.

### **Did You Know?**

- Some things float because they are lighter than water and are buoyant.
- Fluids have a force that pushes up.
- Buoyancy is a force that is needed from water for an object to stay afloat.
- When something heavy, like a rock, is dropped in water, it will sink.

### **Ask Your Child:**

- Can you describe something that floats?
- Can you describe something that sinks?
- How did you make a raft?
- What did you do with the raft?

### **Activities To Do With Your Child:**

- We compared lots of different things to see if they would sink or float. You can do some experimenting at home. The next time your child takes a bath, test some of their toys. Does each item float or sink? Can you make a toy sink even if it floats? Bring some other waterproof things into the bathtub. You could use a rock, ball, spoon, bowl, crayon, hairbrush, or comb. Before you test each thing, have your child guess which ones will float and which ones will sink. When you are done, draw a picture together of something that floated and something that sank. Send the picture to school so that your child can share what you did together.

### **Vocabulary To Use With Your Child:**

- **float** – to rest on the surface of a liquid without sinking.
- **sink** – to fall slowly to a lower level.
- **boat** – an open vehicle, smaller than a ship, that moves on water.
- **ship** – a large boat that carries people or things through deep water.
- **transportation** – the act of moving things or people from one place to another.
- **raft** – a flat platform made of materials that can float, used to carry people or goods.