

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.