

Making a Cork Boat

Buoyancy – the ability to float in water

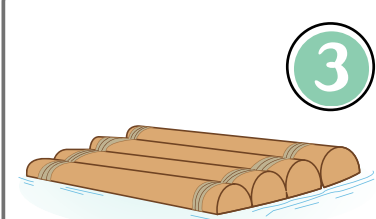
Buoyancy is a force that pushes up on objects. The more surface area the object has for the force to push up on, the greater chance it will float and the more weight it will hold. The denser an object, the faster it will sink, the lighter the object (air pockets) the better it will float.



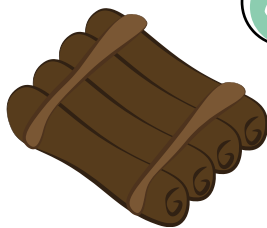
Gather your materials



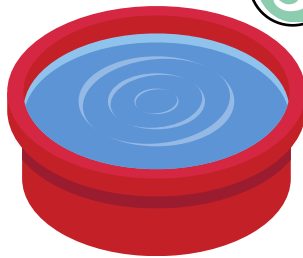
Optional materials



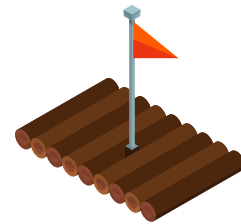
Take at least 2 corks, you could use more if you like and line them up next to each other like logs on a raft



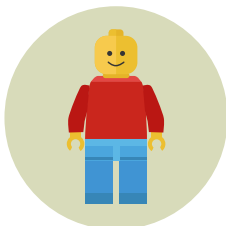
Rubber band them together like so



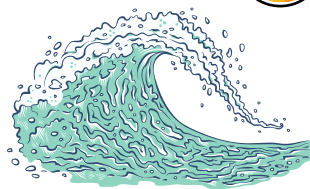
Your cork raft is ready to float!



Want it to be more of a boat than a raft? Add a toothpick and a paper flag. Go ahead and decorate your flag!



Do you think your cork boat would stay a float if you gave it passengers? Give it a try



What happens if you make waves hit your cork boat?



What other materials around your house could you use to make boats that float?

Are corks dense or are they full of little air pockets? Do you think this will help it sink or float? Let's find out!