



Floats and Boats

Cub Scouts · Elective · Tiger rank

Name

Started

Completed

Floats and Boats is about how things float. You'll learn about different boats, test what floats and sinks, build your own model boat, and practice putting on a life jacket. It's science you can splash in.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/floats-and-boats/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

☐ 1 Name five different kinds of boats

Tip: Look at pictures or visit a marina and name five boats, like a canoe, sailboat, or ferry.

Example: Five boats to name: a canoe that people paddle, a sailboat pushed by wind, a tugboat that pulls big ships, a ferry that carries cars and people, and a fishing boat with nets.

☐ 2 Find five things that float and five that don't

Tip: Fill a tub with water and test toys, corks, coins, and spoons. Guess first, then test.

Example: Guess first, then test: a cork, a plastic lid, a leaf, an apple, and a rubber duck float. A coin, a spoon, a rock, a key, and a marble sink. Were any of your guesses wrong?

☐ 3 Make a model boat, from recycled materials or other items, and float it on water

Tip: Build a boat from foil, a milk carton, or a sponge and see if it floats. Add a sail.

Example: Fold foil into a flat boat with sides, float it, then add pennies one at a time. How many can it hold before it sinks? Try a wider boat and see if it holds more.

- ☐ **4** Show you can put on a life jacket and buckle it correctly, and learn when it's safe to get into a boat

Tip: Try on a life jacket with your adult and buckle every strap so it's snug. Talk about when it's safe to get into a boat, like only when an adult says so and with your life jacket on.

Example: Put on a life jacket, zip it, and buckle the straps. Have your adult gently lift it at the shoulders: if it slides up past your chin, tighten the straps. Then talk about boat rules, like waiting for an adult to say it's okay, stepping into the middle of the boat, and keeping your life jacket on the whole time.