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Five friends decide to go for a row in the bay. One of them sinks the boat. Was it cow, donkey, sheep, pig, or mouse?

Ages: 2 to 7

ISBN: 9780698113732

Copyright: 1982

Genre: Fiction

Classification: Picture Story Book

Who Sank the Boat?

It wasn't the sheep who knew where to sit to level the boat so that she could knit!

Math Connections: Use this book to introduce:

Weight

Volume

Buoyancy

Comparisons

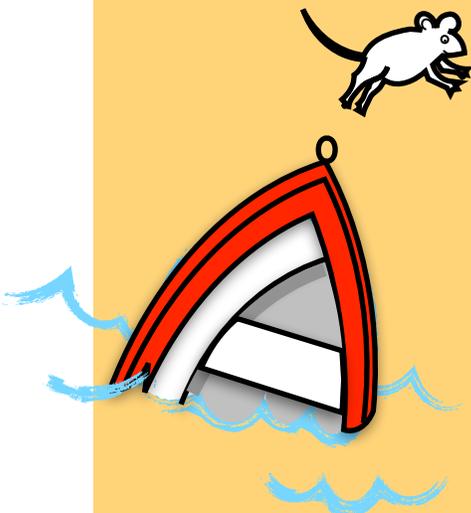
Predicting

Activities to Do Together:

- Experiment! Gather a group of objects that won't be ruined if they get wet, for example, an apple, a paperclip, an egg, plastic and metal spoons, action figures, and a piece of wood. Find out what will float and what will sink by placing the objects in a bowl of water.
- Ask your child to predict what will sink and what will float. Record these predictions. Put the items into the water one by one. Ask your child what they notice. Did the object float? Did it match their prediction? Make a list together with the name of the object and what happened to the object when it was placed in the water.
- Sort the objects you tested into piles. Make a group of floating objects and a group of sinking objects. What other ways can you sort the objects?
- Drop a ball of modeling clay into a bowl of water. Notice what happens. Challenge your child to find a way to make the clay float. If they aren't successful at first, encourage them to keep trying.

Extension Questions:

1. How would you describe the five friends that went for a row in the bay? How are they alike? How are they different?
2. The book says that the sheep knew where to sit to level the boat. What do you think this statement means? How would you know if the boat was level?
3. What do you think the cow, donkey, pig, sheep and mouse should do next time they go for a row so their boat does not sink?
4. Look at the picture of cow, donkey, pig and sheep sitting in the boat together. What do you notice? Why do you think that the boat sank when the tiny mouse jumped on board?
5. Who do you think sank the boat? Why do you think so? Do you think one animal did it all on its own?



Vocabulary for Building Math Concepts:

all, balanced, before, beside, in, last, later, level,
lightest, little, side, tiny, weight

Early Math Project Resources:

[Build a Boat That Floats](#) English

[Construya un barco que flote](#) Spanish

Online Resources:

[Who Sank the Boat? Lesson Plan from Math at Home](#)

[Who Sank the Boat? Guide from The Little Big Book Club](#)

Also available in:

Braille

Related Books: *What Floats in a Moat?* by Lynne Berry, *Things That Float and Things That Don't* by David A. Adler



“Was it the little mouse,
the last to get in,
who was lightest of all?”

Could it be him?”