

Ship Shape

This is an activity for one or more people.

Goal: Make a boat that will float and decorate it with geometric shapes

You might use:

- Scissors
- Tape or glue
- Construction paper, recycled magazine pages, recycled boxes, cardboard, or other types of paper that can be cut into shapes
- Corks, sticks, a milk or juice carton, or other materials for building a boat

What to do:

- Design and build a boat that will float. Modify your design, if needed, so the boat will remain afloat in a bowl of water or the bath tub.
- Once you are satisfied with your boat's design, decorate it with different geometric shapes. What shapes will you use to create the boat's sails, flags, and crew?
- Show your boat to somebody else and either ask them to identify the shapes they see or tell them about the shapes you used in your design.

Other things to try:

- Create other boats and/or rafts that will float using different materials.
- Build a boat that stays afloat while carrying different weights. For example, build a boat that will carry an 8-ounce can. Will the boat carry a 14-ounce can? If not, how can you change its design so it's able to carry the heavier weight?

