

STEM Freebee

Sink or Float

Sink or Float Teacher Guide

Students predict whether objects float or sink
and observe results.

Materials per student/team:

- Bowl of water,
- 5-7 small objects

• Ex coin, cork, toy, leaf, crayon, sponge, bottle cap

Steps:

- Test one object at a time.
- Record predictions first.
- Each object can only be tested once.

Steps:

- Ask students to predict if each object will float or sink. On the student sheet.
- Drop objects in water one by one.
- Record the result.
- Discuss why some objects float and others sink.

Tips:

- Encourage drawings for predictions.
- Discuss material properties (wood, metal, plastic).

Challenge: Can you find a heavy object that floats?

Materials (per group of 4 students):

- 1 bowl of water
- 5-7 small objects (coin, cork, toy, leaf, crayon, sponge, bottle cap)

Time: 15 minutes just before activity to avoid cleanup.

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...if actually...

Prediction
(Draw/Write)

Result
(Float/Sink)

Surprised?
(Yes/No)

Product Information

-  Product Information 
- Bring STEM to life in your classroom with these hands-on, first-grade-friendly projects! Each activity is designed with **clear rules, materials, and step-by-step directions** so your students can dive into problem-solving, creativity, and collaboration.
-  **How to Use:**
 - Print or display the activity slides for students.
 - Follow the **Teacher Guide + Setup Tips** to prepare materials.
 - Pass out **Student Worksheets** so learners can record predictions, designs, and results.
 - Wrap up with the included **Exit Ticket** to check for understanding.
-  **What's Included:**
 -  Student Worksheets
 -  Teacher Guide + Setup Instructions
 -  Slides for each activity
- Perfect for centers, STEM rotations, or whole-class challenges—your students will love exploring, building, and testing their ideas while you'll love how easy it is to implement!

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Slide link

This is A Link To the Sink or
Float Slides



Click Me

Sink or Float Challenge

Teacher Guide

Goal: Students predict whether objects float or sink and observe results.

- **Materials per student/team:**
 - Bowl of water,
 - 5–7 small objects
 - Ex coin, cork, toy, leaf, crayon, sponge, bottle cap
- **Rules:**
 - Test one object at a time.
 - Record predictions first.
 - Each object can only be tested once.
- **Steps:**
 - Ask students to predict if each object will float or sink. On the student Sheet.
 - Drop objects in water one by one.
 - Record the result.
 - Discuss why some objects float and others sink.
- **Tips:**
 - Encourage drawings for predictions.
 - Discuss material properties (wood, metal, plastic).
- **Challenge:** Can you find a heavy object that floats?

Materials (per group of 4 students):

- 1 bowl of water
- 5–7 small objects (coin, cork, toy, leaf, crayon, sponge, bottle cap)

Setup Tips:

- Fill bowls with water just before activity to avoid spills.
- Place objects on a tray next to each group.
- Have paper and pencils ready for recording predictions.

Time: 15–20 minutes

Sink or Float Challenge

Student Sheat [1 pr Group]

Object	Prediction (Draw/Write)	Result (Float/Sink)	Surprised? (Yes/No)	Notes

•My favorite object I tested was... _____

•I predicted it would sink / float but it actually... _____

•One new idea I learned is... _____