

# Toy Boat Races

## Materials

1. Disposable aluminum foil pans
2. Small wooden dowels
3. Construction paper or posterboard
4. Modeling clay (or playdoh)
5. Painters tape

## Tools

1. x-acto knife
2. scissors
3. hot glue
4. sand paper

## Directions – What Shape Floats?

1. Get a piece of modeling clay or playdoh the size of your fist.
2. Make it into a ball and drop it in a tub of water. What happens?
3. Now, try to make a shape out of the clay that will float!
4. Why does one shape float better than another?

## Directions – Build Your Boat!

1. Use your disposable foil pan for the hull of the ship.
2. Build your sail. Use a wooden dowel for the mast and cut a sail out of construction paper or posterboard—it should be large enough to catch the wind, but not so large as to tip the boat. Decorate it if you want!
3. Attach the sail to the dowel using tape or hot glue.
4. Attach the mast to your boat using a small ball of modeling clay. Make sure that the sail stands up straight and is on the centerline of the boat.
5. If needed, add some more clay to the bottom along the centerline for ballast. The foil pans you're using should be stable, but this is something to try if your boat is tipping.
6. Your boat is ready to sail! Have fun!