Boat test sheet

Harbor Master's stamp

Copy this page, or print it from doalongstem.com. Guess first. Then test.

1 Will it float?

Shape	My guess	What happened	Float?
1  **Ball**			yes / no
2  **Pancake**			yes / no
3  **Boat**			yes / no

2 How many pennies?

Boat	My guess	Pennies it carried	Most?
Small boat like a little bowl			
Wide boat like a pie dish			
My own idea			

Make a stack of pennies for each boat. Which stack is the tallest?

Harbor Master's cheat sheet

Grown-ups: boats can surprise you. Here is what to do.

If this happens	Do this
The boat sinks right away	Look for a hole or a crack, and pinch it shut. Check that the walls are high all the way around.
It tips over	Put the pennies in gently, spread out over the bottom, not all on one side.
The clay is too hard to shape	Warm it in your hands for a minute first.
The clay goes soggy or falls apart	It may be play dough. Oil-based modeling clay works best.
The boat holds hardly any pennies	Make the bottom and walls thinner, so the boat is bigger.
Water everywhere	That's what the towel is for. Put the tub on a tray.
Your scientist wants to try something new	Say yes! Keep the same clay, change the shape, and write it down as boat 3.

When you're done, count the pennies back into the cup and empty the tub.