

UPCYCLED BOAT

30
minutes

3
difficulty

Tools & Materials:

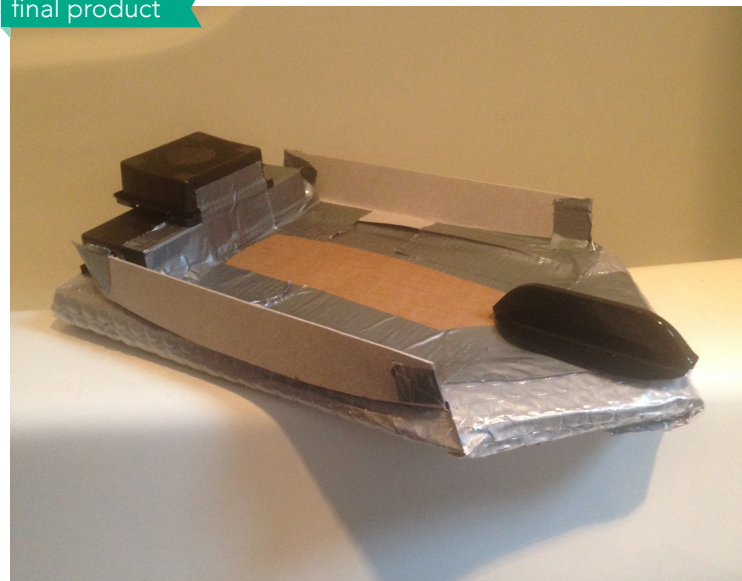


- Pencil and paper for sketching
- Recycled objects:
 - Observe what different materials do when placed in water before you build. We recommend raiding your recycling bin for materials!
- Scissors
- Tape, glue, or rubber bands
- Sink or large tub with water

Description:

Let's explore the classic question, how can we cross the sea? To build a recycled toy boat we will explore materials that float, test buoyancy, and see how movement plays a role in boat design. Make multiple boats and put all of your ideas to the test!

final product



Directions:

1 Plan Ahead:

- What materials are waterproof? What materials float?
- Do you want to add a sail or paddle on your boat?
- Which base (hull) shape will help the boat glide the farthest?
- Which base (hull) shape will support the most weight?
- Sketch your boat idea on a blank sheet of paper

2 Build:

- Start by building the base or hull of your boat.
Test as you build to make any adjustments.
- Use scissors and tape to create the structure
How does the shape of the boat affect its ability to complete a task?
- Using extra materials, add a sail or build a stronger base for weights.

3 Test Your Design:

Choose a test based on your boat build.
Fill a tub, sink, or a large container with water to test your boat.

- Float: *Can you make a boat out of non-waterproof materials?*
Can your boat float for 2 minutes?
- Weight: *How much weight can your boat hold? Add rocks, paperclips, washers, pennies, or marbles slowly onto your boat.*
- Speed: *Can you move your boat across your test zone? Use "wind" to help sail your boat or race against another. Blow on your boat, blow through a straw, or wave a piece of cardboard to create wind.*

4 What did you notice during testing? What did you wonder?

Make improvements to your boat and test again!

