



Sink or Float Experiment

Week 7 — Wednesday | Testing Solid Properties in Water



Reading Time

Today you are going to be a scientist and run a real experiment. An experiment is a careful test to find out the answer to a question. Before you start any experiment, you first make a **prediction** — that means you guess what you think will happen.

Why do some solids sink and others float? It has to do with **density**. Density is how tightly packed the material is. Solids that are very dense and heavy for their size will sink. Solids that are light and not very dense will float. Even a huge ship made of metal can float because it is filled with air inside!

A good scientist writes down their predictions, runs the test, then records what actually happened. Sometimes your prediction is right, and sometimes it is wrong — both help you learn!



Reading Questions

1. What is a prediction?

2. What word describes how tightly packed a material is?

3. Why can a big metal ship float?

4. Is it okay if your prediction is wrong during an experiment? Explain why.

Sink or Float Experiment

Materials: A bowl or basin of water, 8 small solid objects

Step 1: Write each object name in the chart below.

Step 2: Before testing, write S (sink) or F (float) in the Prediction column.

Step 3: Gently place each object in the water and record the actual result.

Step 4: Circle YES or NO — was your prediction correct?

#	Object Name	Predict S or F	Actual S or F	Was I right? YES / NO
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Sort Your Results

Write the names of your objects under the correct heading.

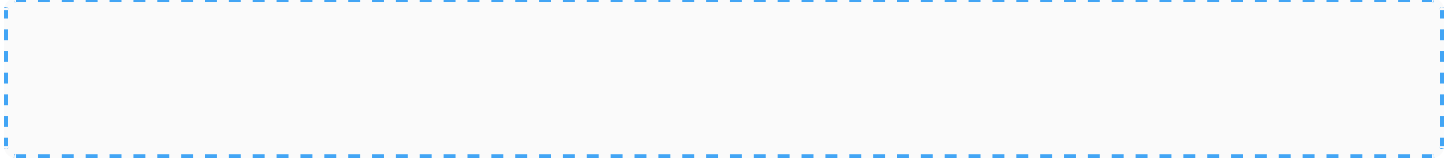
Objects That Sank	Objects That Floated

True or False — Circle Your Answer

- ☐ 1. All heavy objects sink in water.
- ☐ 2. A prediction is a guess about what will happen.
- ☐ 3. Only small objects can float.
- ☐ 4. An experiment helps you find out the real answer.
- ☐ 5. Density affects whether things sink or float.
- ☐ 6. All metal objects always sink.

Draw Your Experiment

Draw your bowl of water. Show one object sinking to the bottom and one object floating on top. Label each drawing.



Label: SINKING object FLOATING object

Think About It

1. What pattern did you notice? What kind of objects tended to sink?

2. What kind of objects tended to float?

Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: prediction density experiment sink float results

1. Before testing, a scientist makes a _____.

2. How tightly packed something is called _____.

3. A careful test to find an answer is an _____.

4. A heavy rock will _____ in water.

5. A piece of cork will _____ on water.

6. After the test, you write down your _____.

Try It at Home

Find 3 more objects at home. Test them and record below.

Object	Sank or Floated?	Why Do You Think So?