

Grade 1 Understanding Structures and Mechanisms – Materials, Objects, and Everyday Structures

SINKING OR FLOATING

		Descriptions		Sink/Float	
	Object	Weight heavy/light/the same	Size/Shape	Prediction	Result
Experiment 1	apple				
	grape				
Experiment 2	balled-up modelling clay				
	boat-shaped modelling clay				

In this experiment, I noticed that the _______ of an object is the key weight/size/shape of an object is the key factor in determining whether the object sinks or floats.



Online Resources

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SINKING OR FLOATING

Weighing an Elephant

If you were asked to find the weight of an elephant, how would you do it?

A long time ago in China, a man wanted to find the weight of an elephant. However, with the limited weighing tools available two thousand years ago, finding the weight of an animal that big seemed almost impossible.

But his five-year-old son came up with an idea.



Place the elephant in an empty boat. Then mark the water level.



Get the elephant off the boat. Add rocks to the boat until the water reaches the mark.



Take the rocks out of the boat and weigh them.

The man then added the weights of the rocks to find the weight of the elephant. What a genius his son was!