

# Parent Guide: Boats

## Foil Boats, Newspaper Boats, Laundry Basket Boats

# 1

### Foil Boats (Source: [discovere.org](http://discovere.org))

Build a boat, make it float, then sink it - with pennies! A lesson about buoyancy, density, and displacement.

#### Supplies Needed:

- shallow plastic bin or other shallow container
- water
- towels
- pennies (several hundred) or other weights
- aluminum foil

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# 2

### Newspaper Boats (Source: [PBS Kids](http://pbskids.com))

Build a boat out of alternate material. Does it float the same as the other? Does it sink the same as the other? What happens when the paper gets wet? Can you blow on the boat to make it move? For a fun twist, color the bottom and sides of your boat with markers and see what happens when the water begins to soak in. A lesson about wind energy, absorbency and chromatography.

#### Supplies Needed:

- newspaper
- markers (optional)
- shallow container (optional)
- water (optional)

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# 3

### Laundry Basket Boats

Use a laundry basket, a broom handle, an old roll of wrapping paper, and a yardstick to build a laundry basket boat. Take turns jumping in the boat and sailing the ocean blue! Can you push the boat? What about when someone's in it? A lesson about work energy.

Pretend you are a pirate captain that has come upon a deserted beach (argh matey, the couch!)...or a fisherman at sea with a net full of surprises (what is this I've caught, stuffed animals?).



photo source: [hative.com](http://hative.com)