

Building Boats

Make boats out of wood, tin, walnuts and paper then hold a race to see whose is fastest!

Making a sardine-tin boat

You will need

- empty sardine tin
- piece of cork
- drill
- string
- thin twig
- colourful paper

Take an empty sardine tin and completely remove the lid. Clean the inside carefully. Beware of sharp edges.

Drill a hole in the centre of a piece of cork and glue it to the middle of the tin with the hole facing up.

Insert a thin twig into the hole for a mast. If you want you can wind a length of string around the base of the twig just above the cork to secure it further.

To finish your boat, cut out a colourful paper flag and glue it around the top of the mast-twig.



Making a walnut boat

You will need

- walnuts (the larger the better)
- glue
- modelling clay
- toothpicks
- scissors
- paper

Carefully prise open some walnuts so you have two halves, making sure the shells remain intact. Remove the nut.

Glue a small ball of modelling clay into the centre of one half of the shell. Use a toothpick as a mast and push it into the modelling clay.

Cut a sail out of paper and glue it around the top of the toothpick.





Making a bark boat

You will need

- tree bark (pine floats the best)
- thin twig
- clay or mud
- large leaf (maple or rhubarb)
- a hand drill, glue and fabric (for a more durable boat)

Take a big piece of bark (pine bark floats the best) and make sure it doesn't have any holes.

Find a thin twig for a mast and attach it to the centre of the boat with some clay or mud.

Find a large leaf, such as a maple or rhubarb leaf, to make a sail.

Make two holes in the leaf, one at the top and one at the bottom, and thread it onto the mast.

To make a more durable boat, drill a hole in the centre of the bark with a hand drill. Push a twig through the hole. If it wobbles stabilise it with glue.

Cut out a square of fabric and make two small holes in the top and bottom. Push it over the mast.

Making a pirate raft

You will need

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| • red paper | • string |
| • scissors | • short thin twigs |
| • corks | • glue |
| • wood skewers | • toothpick |

Cut out a red paper flag and glue it around a toothpick to make a pirate flag.

Take several wooden skewers and push corks onto the ends of each one. Lie them down, parallel to each other, with all the corks side by side.

Lay some short thin twigs in the other direction over the skewers and between the corks. Tie the sticks to the wood skewers with string.

To finish, put a little glue on the end of the flagpole and insert it between the sticks.