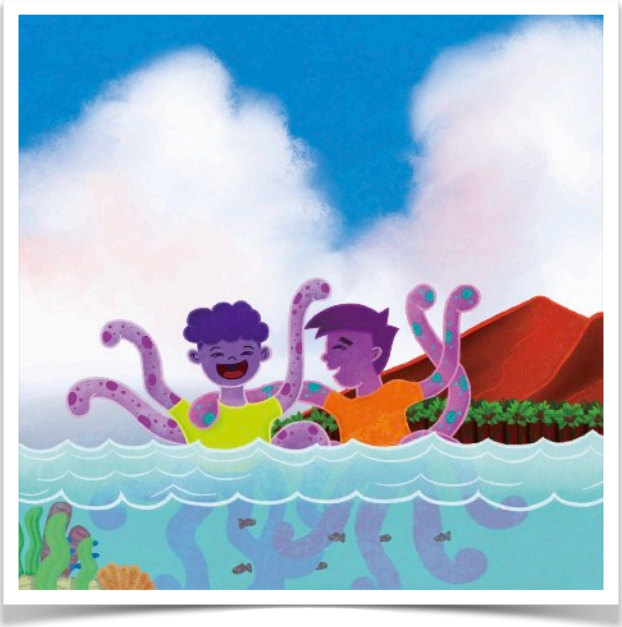
Sinking & Floating Activity

Ooga Booga Music Monster



The Ocean is Huge!

It is the biggest water reservoir on Earth.

Oceans help water travel all over the earth. Oceans can help people travel, too. In the story about the Octopus Boys, Maxwell and Sam sail the ocean and find a beautiful tropical island. They meet Ooga Booga, who says, “Give me your boat—this island’s remote—if I get wet without it, I’ll sink!

Let’s meet our participants!

AVOCADO

DUCKIE

MANGO

The Octopus Boys play in the ocean.

The ocean is Earth’s biggest water reservoir!

Ooga Booga can’t swim!

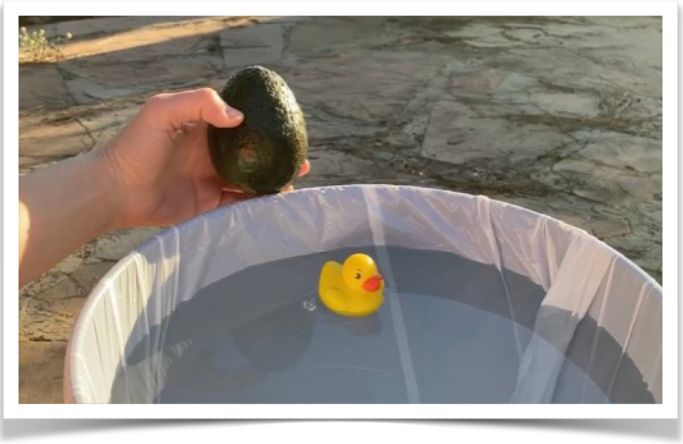
He’s too dense and he will sink.

He needs something that will float!

How will Ooga Booga get off the island?

What will sink and what will float?

Experiment with different items to see what floats and what sinks.



For my experiment, I asked an avocado, a mango, and a rubber duckie if they would climb into the bucket of water to find out if they float. They agreed!

First, Avocado got in. He slowly sank to the bottom where he declared, "It's Mango's turn!" Then Mango climbed in, saying, "If I sink, pull me out." And I told him, "Of course!" Mango also sank. Avocado and Mango wished Duckie good luck, and Duckie jumped in. "He floats!" exclaimed Mango and Avocado.

You can do your own experiments with floating and sinking. Always supervise children around water.

- Fill a bucket or sensory bin with water.
- Gather objects you wish to test, for example, a pencil, a leaf, a rock, a ball, tiny car, banana, apple...
- Make some guesses about what will float and what will sink
- Keep track of what sinks and what floats
- Do you notice anything special about the things that sink? About the things that float?
- Make some guesses about things you can't test, like an ocean liner or a car, then look up appropriate videos of these things actually being tested

WHY DOES RUBBER DUCKIE FLOAT?

Rubber Duckie is filled with air, and air is lighter than water. You can see that air is lighter than water if you pour some water into a cup. If you left any room in your cup, that's air!

The air in your cup is on top of the water because air is lighter than water.

If you put sand or rocks into your cup of water, they will sink, because they are heavier than water.