

### **Whole Class work KS1 & 2**

Get the children to think about which materials will float and which will sink. Do a group experiment with a big jar of water at the front of the class. Using a piece of wood and a piece of rock ask the class to say which will sink and which will float.

### **KS2 Extension**

Then introduce a piece of pumice stone and ask if the class think this will sink or float. When it floats explain that materials of the same type don't always act in the same way as they may have different properties eg pumice is a lava stone and is full of tiny air pockets and so floats.

### **Introduce new vocabulary**

Again with the whole class test the **buoyancy** of a ping pong ball and a squash ball. The ping pong ball is lighter and so is more buoyant. The squash ball is heavier and has to displace more water to support its weight and so floats lower.

### **Experiments - KS1**

#### **Activity Sheet – What Floats?**

Provide each small group with a washing up bowl of water and each child with a ball of plasticine and a silver foil cake container. Use the activity sheets for them to carry out their experiment.

#### **Activity Sheet – Waterproof Tests**

Provide each child or small group with a jam jar, elastic band, circles of material, measuring cup and water.

#### **National Curriculum Links**

SC3 – materials and their properties

SC1 – scientific enquiry



**Experiments – KS2**

Activity Sheet – **How Absorbent Am I?**

Provide each group with weighing scales, bowl of water, measuring jug and squares of material.

Interactive Game – **Trimming a boat**

Interactive Game – **Boat Race**

**National Curriculum Links**

SC1 – scientific enquiry

SC3 – **materials and their properties**

SC4 – **physical processes – forces and motions**