



making physics matter



Age
3-5
years

Phizzi enquiry

Sinking eggs

A Phizzi Foundation enquiry, taken from the EYFS Science Talk programme for Ogden primary partnerships.



Key questions

- Q. What do you know about floating and sinking?
- Q. Will these eggs float or sink? Why do you think this?
- Q. What would happen if we changed...(the material of the marbles/the water/the plastic egg shell/the shape of the container)?
- Q. How could we stop the boat sinking in the story?

Resources

- Plastic eggs (which can be filled)
 - Bowls of water
 - Marbles
 - Cloths/mats to reduce spillages
 - Picture Book:
Who Sank the Boat? by Pamela Allen
- *H&S - use suitable cloths and protective coverings to avoid slip hazards; supervise children when using marbles

Early learning goals

C&L (40-60+) Understanding: Children answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences.

UtW (40-60+) The world: Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things.

Activity: Sinking eggs

Engage: Read, *Who Sank the Boat?* and invite children to make suggestions and comments on the events in the story. Give children a plastic egg to handle, and ask them to describe the eggs using their senses (guide the discussion to consider if they are heavy/light). Refer to the plastic eggs and ask, "Will these eggs float or sink? Why do you think this?"

Explore: Challenge children to predict how many marbles will sink an egg. Children to add one marble at a time until it sinks. Ask them to explain their observations.

Conclude: Refer back to the story book. Share ideas about floating and sinking using key questions.

