

BALLOON-POWERED BOAT



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A note from Page

I used a rubber duck but you can use any small toy or another kind of captain!

Find a mini passenger to set sail in a bathtub, puddle, or pond. Today we're making them a boat to have an adventure in. This isn't only a boat in looks but in function too! Watch this creation puffer and zip across the water on its own.

Materials:

- A floating container (styrofoam bowl, plastic butter tub, milk carton, etc)
- Drinking straw with bendy tip
- Rubber band
- Balloon
- Clay or play dough (optional)
- Rubber Duck (optional)

Directions:

1. Poke a hole in your floating container as close to the size of the diameter of the drinking straw as possible. The hole should be located in such a way that it will be underwater as your boat floats.
2. Attach the balloon to the non-bendy end of the straw with the rubber band. Make the rubber band tight enough that the balloon won't fly off, but not so tight that the straw gets crushed.
3. Poke the bendy end of the straw through the hole in the floating container. If necessary, plug the space around the straw with clay.
4. Inflate the balloon through the straw and put your finger over the tip of the straw. Put the straw underwater and let your finger off the tip.
5. Experiment with the design. Add a rudder, change the length of the straw, and use your imagination.

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If you'd like to post your boat, let us know with the hashtag #Storyologist!