

# Amaze Your Brain *at Home!*

## EXPERIMENTS

BEST FOR  
18 months  
- 4 years

### SINK OR FLOAT

#### MATERIALS

- Waterproof toys and household items such as:
  - Items that sink - metal utensils, coins, stones, toy cars, keys, etc.
  - Items that float - plastic blocks, sticks or popsicle sticks, corks, bathtub toys, crayons, rubber ball, etc.
- A container to do the experiment in i.e. plastic tub, basin, pot, bucket, etc.



#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Start by collecting the items for your experiment. If you give your child a list of things to collect, this part of the experiment could become a scavenger hunt.
2. Before adding each object to the water, ask your child to predict whether the item will sink or float.
3. Have your child drop the objects, one by one into the water and observe what happens!
4. Before explaining why items sink or float, ask your child **why they think** an object sinks or floats. They might guess size or weight or the way an object is made. Explain that items sink or float based on their **density**. **Density** is determined by how close or far apart molecules are within an item. Molecules are only visible under a microscope.



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