COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Ollie Finds a Floating Boat

Ollie Finds a Floating Boat | Suggested ages 3-5



Ollie predicts and tests a pebble, leaf, and cork to choose a stable little boat for an acorn.

Read, talk, and discover

The complete story is followed by questions and a separate answer guide. Read aloud together, pause to talk, and take your time.

Print on US Letter at actual size, or choose Fit for A4. Use single-sided printing for activity cards. Black-and-white printing is suitable.

Part 1

Ollie Otter found a smooth acorn beside a shallow water tray on the classroom table. He wanted to send it across in a tiny boat.

Part 2

Three objects waited on a towel: a flat pebble, a broad leaf, and a flat cork disk. Ollie guessed that the pebble might work.

Part 3

He placed the pebble on the water. Plop! It sank to the bottom, and Ollie watched the bubbles rise.

Part 4

Ollie was surprised, but he did not call the test a failure. Now he knew the heavy pebble was not a boat.

Part 5

The leaf floated. When Ollie put the acorn near one edge, the leaf tipped and the acorn rolled onto the towel.

Part 6

Last, Ollie tested the flat cork disk. It floated level and stayed still when he touched the middle gently.

Part 7

Ollie placed the acorn in the middle of the cork disk. He blew softly across the water, and the little boat moved to the other side.

Part 8

Ollie drew three result pictures: pebble sinks, leaf floats but tips, and cork disk floats steadily. Every test taught him something.

Draw, tell, or write

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.

My favorite part, and why I chose it

STORY QUIZ

Think about the story

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question and all the choices. Circle one answer. A grown-up can read aloud; you can point or say your answer, too.

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1. What did Ollie want to carry across the water tray?

A. An acorn	B. A shell	C. A berry

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

2. Which object sank to the bottom?

A. The leaf	B. The cork	C. The pebble

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

3. What happened when the acorn sat on the leaf?

A. The leaf tipped	B. The leaf grew	C. The leaf sank at once

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

Questions 4 to 5

4. Why did the flat cork disk work?

A. It bent around the acorn	B. It floated level and stayed steady	C. It sank very slowly

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

5. What did Ollie do after each test?

A. He tested all three together	B. He changed the water tray	C. He used what he saw to choose again

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

ANSWER GUIDE

For the grown-up

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Keep this page separate from the child's activity. Read directions aloud when helpful, and invite the child to explain their ideas.

1. A - An acorn

An acorn

2. C - The pebble

The pebble

3. A - The leaf tipped

The leaf tipped

4. B - It floated level and stayed steady

It floated level and stayed steady

5. C - He used what he saw to choose again

He used what he saw to choose again

Keep exploring

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.