COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Max and the Submarine That Would Not Sink

Max and the Submarine That Would Not Sink | Suggested ages 5-6



Max adjusts weight and balance so a sealed toy submarine can hover beneath the surface of a water tub.

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

Max made a sealed toy submarine from a small plastic bottle. In a shallow tub with Mom nearby, it floated high.

Part 2

He pushed it down, but trapped air made it pop back up. Max needed weight that would stay attached during the test.

Part 3

He pressed one large lump of clay under the bottle. The submarine tipped nose-first and rested crooked at the bottom.

Part 4

Max removed the lump and divided it into four equal pieces. He placed two near the front and two near the back.

Part 5

The submarine sank level but still touched the bottom. Max removed one small clay piece and tried the test again.

Part 6

Now it floated just below the surface. Max nudged it gently, and it returned to a level position in the water.

Part 7

He recorded three results: no clay floated high, four pieces sank, and three pieces hovered. Mom helped him dry everything.

Part 8

Max learned that trapped air kept the sealed bottle light for its size, while clay added weight. Small, balanced changes helped him find the middle point.

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. Where did Max test the toy submarine?

A. In a deep lake alone	B. Inside a cardboard box	C. In a shallow tub with Mom nearby

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

2. What happened with one large clay lump?

A. The submarine tipped nose-first	B. The bottle became invisible	C. The water froze

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

3. How did Max balance the clay?

A. He put all the clay on one side	B. He used equal pieces at the front and back	C. He dropped clay into the bottle

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

Questions 4 to 5

4. How many clay pieces made the submarine hover?

A. No pieces	B. Seven pieces	C. Three pieces

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

5. What did small, balanced changes help Max find?

A. The middle point between floating and sinking	B. A way to make bubbles sing	C. A new color for the tub

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. C - In a shallow tub with Mom nearby

In a shallow tub with Mom nearby

2. A - The submarine tipped nose-first

The submarine tipped nose-first

3. B - He used equal pieces at the front and back

He used equal pieces at the front and back

4. C - Three pieces

Three pieces

5. A - The middle point between floating and sinking

The middle point between floating and sinking

Keep exploring

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