

SUMMER CAMPS

MIDLAND
CENTER
FOR THE
ARTS

Tin Foil Boats

Description: Explore buoyancy, density, and engineering in this simple activity that is always a hit with our campers!

Recommended Ages: PreK – 3rd

Materials:

- Tin foil
- Popsicle sticks
- Masking tape
- Pennies
- Bath tub or large plastic bin
- Water

Procedure:

1. Instruct your camper to make a boat using the basic supplies of tinfoil, popsicle sticks, and masking tape. The boat must be able to have pennies set in or on top of it.
2. **Optional:** Decide whether there should be a limit to the supplies, for example only a square of tinfoil or only four popsicle sticks, etc.
3. Design your boats!
4. Test your designs by placing them in water, and seeing how many pennies they can hold while staying afloat.
5. Tweak your designs. What could you do to make your boat carry more weight?