

Making lead float

This task is about what makes something float.



A lump of lead placed in water sinks.

But the same lump of lead rolled out to make a piece of lead foil **floats** when made into a boat shape.

This is because ...

- the lead foil is thinner and therefore lighter.
- air is trapped in the rolled-out lead which makes it buoyant.
- the boat shape displaces a greater mass of water than the lump of lead.
- the water's surface tension can support the mass of the thin lead.

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