



THE SCIENCE OF
Water

HOW TO MAKE A PAPER BOAT

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Illustrated by Martha S. Young

BioEdSM

Teacher Resources from the
Center for Educational Outreach at
Baylor College of Medicine

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Fourth edition. First edition published 1996.
Printed in the United States of America.

ISBN: 978-1-888997-65-1

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The activities described in this book are intended for school-age children under direct supervision of adults. The authors and Baylor College of Medicine cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may result from conduct of the activities, from not specifically following directions, or from ignoring cautions contained in the text.

Development of this book was supported by grant numbers R25 ES06932 and R25ES010698 from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), National Institutes of Health (NIH). The opinions, findings and conclusions expressed in this publication are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official views of Baylor College of Medicine, NIEHS or NIH.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Science of Water educational materials, first developed as part of the My Health My World® project at Baylor College of Medicine, have benefited from the vision and expertise of scientists and educators representing a wide range of specialties. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to Michael Lieberman, M.D., Ph.D., William A. Thomson, Ph.D., and Carlos Vallbona, M.D., who have lent their support and expertise to the project.

Special acknowledgment is due to our original partners in this project, the Texas Medical Association and the American Physiological Society (APS). We especially thank Marsha Lakes Matyas, Ph.D., of APS, for her direction of field test activities and ongoing collaboration. We also thank the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Allen Dearry, Ph.D., Frederick Tyson, Ph.D., and Liam O’Fallon for their support of this project.

Several colleagues provided valuable assistance during the development of this book. In particular, we would like to thank Cassius Bordelon, Ph.D., Zenaido Camacho, Ph.D., Judith Livingston, Ed.D., Leslie Miller, Ph.D., Ronald Sass, Ph.D., Saundra Saunders, M.A., Linda Thomson, M.A., Cathey Whitener, M.S., Ellison Wittels, M.D., and Rosa Maria Ynfante, B.S.

We also wish to express our gratitude for the invaluable feedback provided by the many teachers and students in and around Austin and Houston, Texas, and Washington, D.C., who participated in field trials of these materials.



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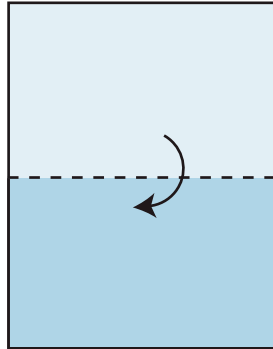


How to Make a Paper Boat

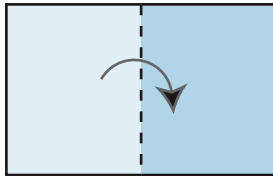
Materials: 8½-in. x 11-in. piece of paper and a pencil or pen. Other sizes in similar proportions (such as 9½-in. x 12-in., or 15½-in. x 20-in.) also will work. For best results don't use newsprint, which will absorb water quickly.

Procedure

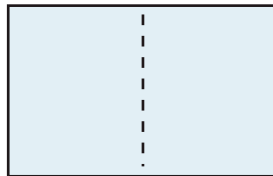
1. Lay the paper in front of you vertically on the table.



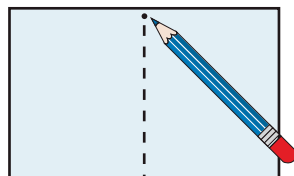
2. Fold the sheet of paper in half, bringing the top half over the bottom.



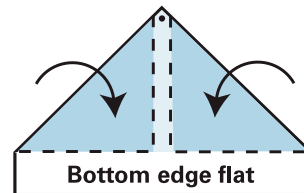
3. Now, fold the paper in half from left to right. Make a crease. Open the paper back up so that it looks like it did in Step 2.



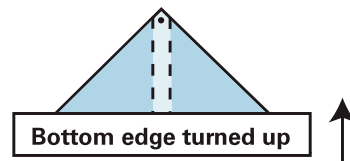
4. With a pencil or pen, make a small dot at the top center of the paper.



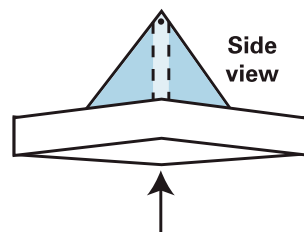
5. Fold each of the top corners diagonally to the center crease.



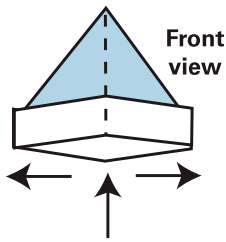
6. Fold the bottom edges up on either side.



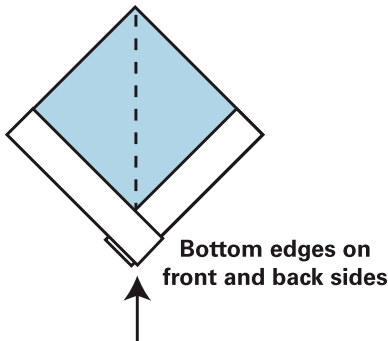
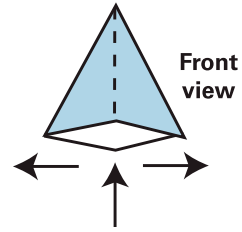
7. Slip your fingers inside the bottom and gently open—but not too far. Right now, you have a paper hat!



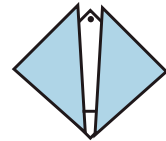
8. Turn the "hat" so that you are looking at it from the front, or "on edge." Slip your fingers inside the bottom and continue to gently open the "hat" until it becomes a flat square. Neatly straighten any pieces that bulge out. Turn the square so that it looks like the picture below.



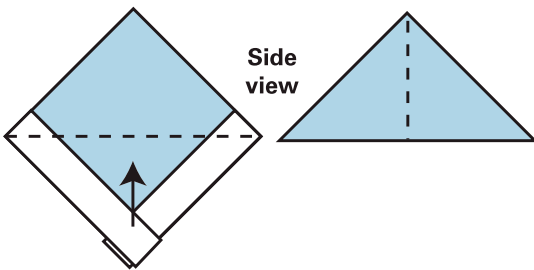
10. Turn the triangle so that you are looking at it from the front, or "on edge." Slip your fingers inside the bottom and gently open until it becomes a flat square. Turn the flat square so that it looks like the picture below.



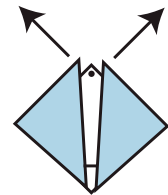
11. Hold the square by the top two edges. You should be able to see the dot you made on the top center point.



9. Fold the bottom edges up on either side to make a small triangle.



12. Gently pull the top two edges all the way out to each side. Flatten the paper. Slip your fingers inside the bottom and open it just a bit.



Now you have a boat, with a sail in the middle!



You may wish to color or decorate your boat, or add a toothpick flag. If you wish to make a smaller, sturdier boat, repeat steps 9 and 10 before going on to steps 11 and 12.