

# Build a Cork Boat

All good pirates need a ship to sail.

Build yourself a little boat and head off on an adventure!

## Adventure kit:

- Two corks
- Two elastic bands
- A medium-sized leaf
- A scrap of thick cardboard
- A small skinny stick (about the length of your biggest finger)
- A washing-up bowl or a large sandwich box full of water, or a puddle

## What to do:

1. Place the two corks beside each other and wrap an elastic band around both of them to hold them together at one end (two sets of hands are good for this bit so ask a grown-up to help you).
2. Wrap your second elastic band around the other end of the corks to make your boat.

3. Wiggle your stick in between the two corks so that it is sticking straight up. If your corks are held together really tightly you may need a grown-up to pull the corks apart for you while you pop the stick in. This is your mast.

4. Push the mast through the top and bottom of a leaf to make a sail. Now put your boat into the water to see if it floats . . .

5. If your boat tips over when you put it in the water it's probably because your mast is too long and heavy. Try snapping the top off your stick to make it shorter and lighter.

6. Blow on your boat to see if you can get it to travel to the other side of the water.

7. Wave the scrap of cardboard backwards and forwards really fast to make a sea storm. Your boat should go dashing across the water with all that wind behind it! Will your boat come through the storm or will it capsize?

## Hints and tips:

- ★ These boats are also really fun to play with in the bath.
- ★ Did you know . . . corks float because they are less dense than water. Wood and ice are also less dense than water and so are good for floating too. Stones are usually more dense than water and so they sink.

