

Make Your Own Ice Boat!

The Schooner *Bowdoin* was designed to travel through the icy waters of the Arctic. You can make your own simple floating sailboat at home using a few basic household items and *real ice!*

You'll need:

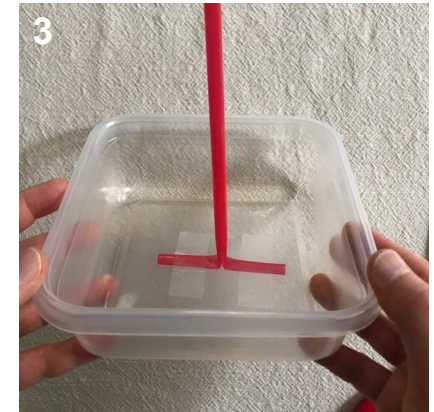
- a plastic reusable food storage container
- a plastic drinking straw
- scissors
- tape
- water
- a sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper
- a pencil



Carefully slide the scissors into the straw and make a cut down the side about 1.5 inches long. Next, make an identical cut directly across from the first.



Bend the cut sides of the straw outwards, as the photo shows.

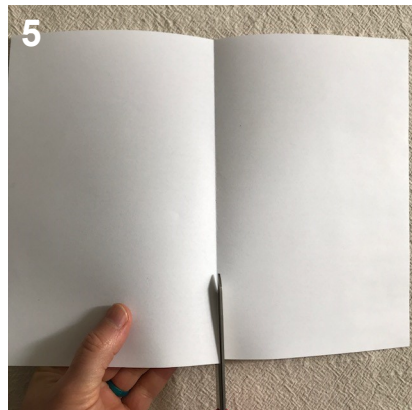


Place your straw in the center of the plastic container and tape the cut sides of the straw *gently* to the bottom of the container.



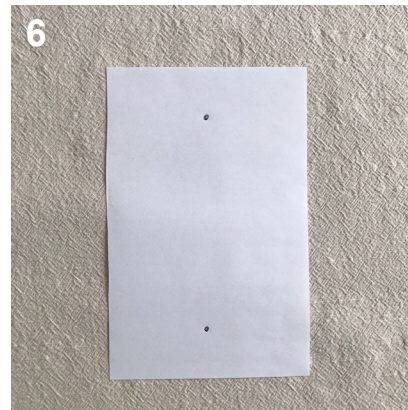
Carefully fill the container with about an inch of water.

Place the container on a level surface in your freezer until the water is frozen.

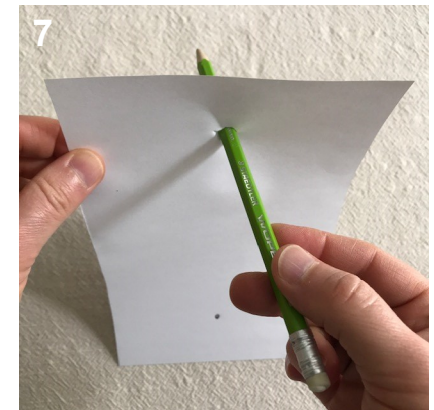


While the water is freezing, make your "sail." Fold the piece of paper in half and cut it in two pieces along the fold.

Choose one piece to use.



With the pencil, make a mark about 1.5 inches from the top and along the center line of the one piece of paper you have chosen to use. Make another mark about 1.5 inches from the bottom and along the center line.

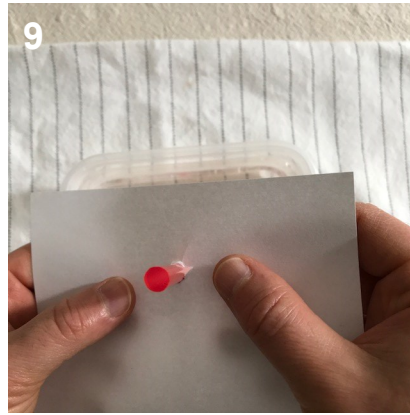


Now carefully push the pencil through each of the two marks you made on the paper. If the paper tears, just start again with the second piece of paper you cut.

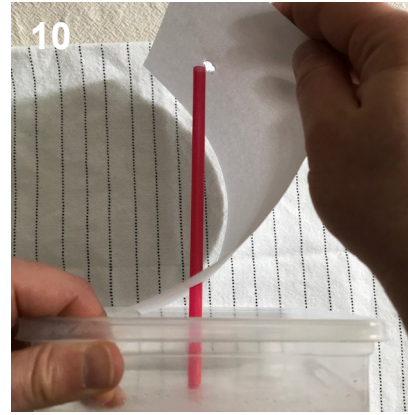
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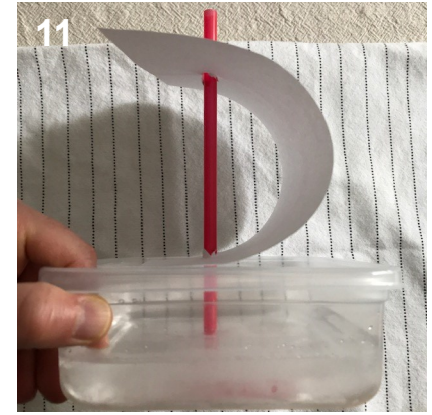
Place a towel down on your workspace. Remove the container from the freezer and let it rest at room temperature for 1 or 2 minutes. Gently push up from the bottom to dislodge the ice and tape. Keep the boat in the container until you are ready to float it.



Slide the straw "mast" through one of the holes you made through the paper "sail" with the pencil.



Now slide the straw through the second hole, as the photo above shows.



Your ship should look like this with the "sail" attached.

Now you're ready to remove the boat from the container and let it float! This worthy little vessel can sail in bathtubs, kiddie pools, even a casserole dish. Where will your imagination take your ice boat?

