

Lesson Plan

Ship Shape

Book: *Big Machines on the Water*

Series: Big Machines

Level: Scout

Objective

To help students explore how a ship's design helps it accomplish certain tasks, and to design a ship of their own.

Supplies

- *Big Machines on the Water* book
- Paper
- Crayons or markers

Before the Activity

Read the *Big Machines on the Water* book out loud to students. Make sure each student has a sheet of paper and drawing supplies.

Activity

There are many kinds of ships and boats. Some ships take people on vacation. These ships have many fun things for their passengers to do. Turn to pages 6 and 7 in the book. Ask students to look closely at the photo and answer the following question:

- What kinds of things does this ship have for people to use? (Answers: There are chairs for people to sit in. There is a big TV screen. People are swimming in a pool.)

Some ships help people do work. Ask students to list some of the jobs that the book says ships can do. (Answers: Ships carry people. They push barges. They carry cargo. They catch fish. They save people in storms.)

Ask students to imagine they can own any kind of ship. What would the ship look like? What things would it carry, or what jobs would it do? Students should draw a picture of this ship. They should make sure to include details that would help the ship do its job. For example, a ship might have slides or rides for passengers to enjoy. Or it might have fishing poles to catch fish. When students finish their pictures, have them take turns sharing what they drew with the rest of the class. They should tell what the ship looks like and describe any special features it has, but they should not say the ship's job. Instead, the other students should try to guess what the ship is designed to do.

Evaluation

Were students able to answer questions based on the text and pictures from the book? Did their drawings include details that would help each ship do its job? Could the rest of the class guess what job each ship was designed to do?

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade K (RI K.7).