



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Aluminum Foil Cargo Ships Bigs' Guide

Activity #1: Cargo Ship

What you'll need:

- 1 square of aluminum foil

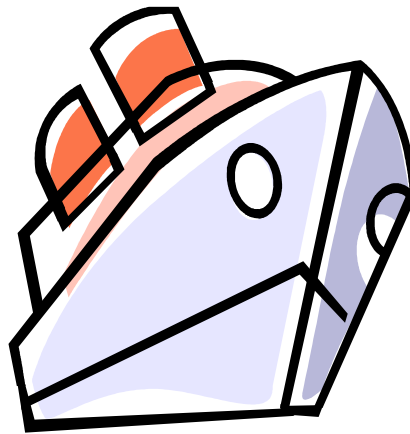
What to do:

- Make a cargo ship/boat out of your one sheet of aluminum foil that will float and can hold the weight of some cargo. Bend, fold, twist, and shape your foil into a sea-worthy vessel!

The test:

Once your cargo ship is completed, test it out!

1. Place your cargo ship into the water.
2. If it floats, slowly add small weights (i.e. pennies) into/onto your ship to see how much weight it can hold.
3. Once your ship sinks, pull it and all the weights out of the water.
4. Count up how many weights were in your boat, minus the one that sunk it, and that's how many weights your boat was able to hold!



* Extra challenge: Before placing any weights in your ship, guess how many your ship will hold and see how close your guess was to the actual amount!

* If you have more time you can make some changes to your ship and see if it can hold even more weight than it did the first time.

Activity #2: Foil Engraving

What you'll need:

- Scissors
- Cardboard
- Newsprint (~ 4 sheets)
- 1 sheet Aluminum foil
- Tape
- Engraving tool (dull pencil, end of a spoon, key, rounded knitting needle, or other rounded object)



What to do:

1. Cut the cardboard to the size you want your engraving to be.
2. Cut several sheets of newsprint to the same size as the cardboard.
3. Tear off a large sheet of aluminum foil, a little longer than twice the length of the cardboard.
4. Double the foil and place the sheets of newsprint on top.
5. Then place the cardboard on top of the newsprint. (The newsprint acts as a cushion and helps prevent the engraving tool from cutting through the foil.)
6. Wrap the edges of the foil around the cardboard and tape them to the back.
7. Turn the cardboard over and smooth any wrinkles in the foil.
8. Choose an engraving tool to use and draw gently on the foil; be careful not to rip the foil.
9. Vary the tool you use, as different tools make entirely different lines.

Activity #3: Just be creative!

What you'll need:

- Sheet of aluminum foil
- Scissors (optional)
- Tape (optional)



Brainstorm what you could turn your sheet of aluminum foil into with a little imagination and some twisting, folding, cutting, etc. Some example ideas are: ring, crown, animals, person, mask, stars, etc. Now pick your favorite idea and make it!

