

STEAM STORY TIME

AT HOME: PIRATES

Suggested Reading

- *Swashby and the Sea* by Beth Ferry
- *Shiver Me Letters, A Pirate ABC* by June Sobel
- *Pirate Pete's Talk Like Pirate* by Kim Kennedy
- *Pirates, Robbers of the High Seas* by Gail Gibbons
- *I Love My Pirate Papa* by Laura Leuck
- *Pirate's Perfect Pet* by Beth Ferry
- *Captain Jack and the Pirates* by Peter Bentley

Activity 1: Depth Perception

Supplies:

- Eyepatch (or something similar)
- Target
- Paperclips

Prompt:

Have you ever wondered why your eyes are where they are? And why there are not somewhere else, say your elbows, the top of your head, or on your back? People have two eyes, side by side, on the front of their heads because it helps us to figure out how close or far away something is. But what about pirates who wear an eye patch? Test out how easy or hard it would be to be a pirate with only one eye working.

Directions:

1. Set the paper target down on the ground.
2. One person will put on the eye patch and stand five feet away from the target. Another person will stand next to the target and hold the paper clips.
3. The person next to the target will hold out one paper clip. The person with the eye patch will tell them to move their hand left, right, forward, backwards.
4. When the person with the eye patch believes the paperclip is over the bullseye of the target, say, "drop it."
5. Where did the paperclip fall? What did you notice when you were trying to get the paperclip in the right spot? Was the paperclip where you thought it would be?
6. Repeat a few more times, then switch roles.

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Activity 2: Divvy the treasure

Supplies:

- Gold paper coins
- Paper pirates

Prompt:

The pirates have found their treasure, but how will they divide it evenly amongst themselves?

Directions:

1. Cut out the coins and the pirates.
2. Divide the coins between two pirates.
How many do those pirates get?
3. Divide the coins between three pirates.
Now how many does each pirate get?
4. Divide the coins between four pirates.
How many does each pirate get?



Activity 3: Build a boat

Supplies:

- 3 corks
- 2 rubber bands
- 1 toothpick
- Foam for flag

Directions:

1. Place the corks in front of you, long sides together, so that they form a rectangle.
2. Use one rubber band to band around one short end, and the second rubber band around the other short end.
3. Cut a triangle out of the foam. This will be the sail.
4. Have an adult thread the toothpick through the sail.
5. Stick the toothpick with the sail into the center of the corks.
6. Now you have made a boat, and it is time to test it!

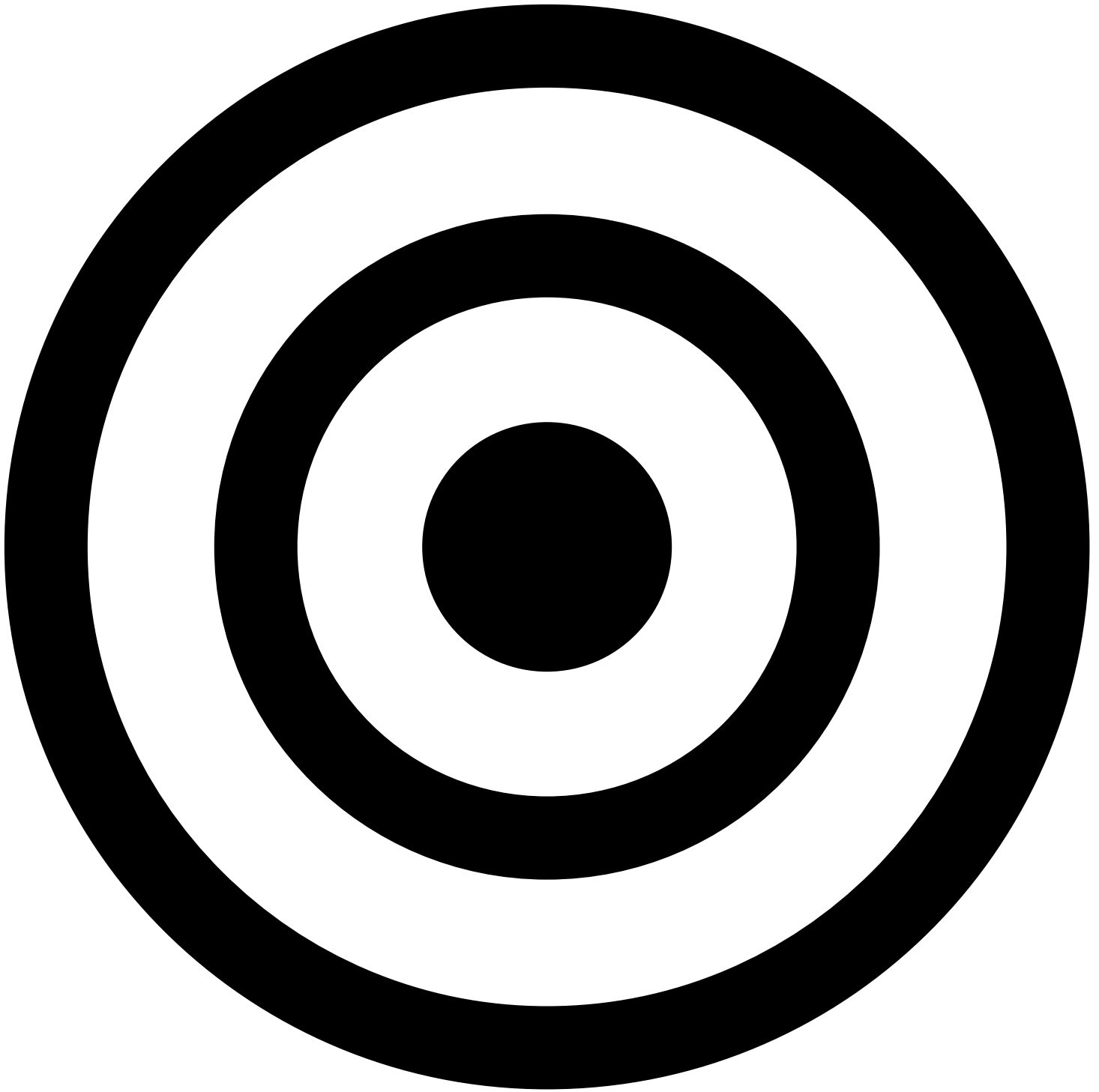
Questions

Put the boat in a bowl of water or take it with you to your next bath. Does it float? Does it stay upright?

If it does not do either, what adjustments can you make? Think of different ways you can make the boat “sail” without touching it.

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