**Soap Boats**

**OBJECTIVE:**

Create a boat to be propelled by soap.

**TERMS TO GO OVER:**

Surface Tension

**LAB MATERIALS:**

* Bin
* Water
* Toothpicks soaked in soap
* Styrofoam plates
* Scissors
* Permanent markers
* Masking tape

**GROUP LEADER/VOLUNTEER/TLC ROLE**

Help cut out the Styrofoam, “launch” the boats

**SETUP PROCEDURE**

1. Fill small bins of water for each table for testing
2. Fill one large bin full of water and make a start and finish line with masking tape

**LAB PROCEDURE**

1. Cut out a boat from the Styrofoam plate
2. Test the boat to see if it will float
3. Decorate the boat
4. Put the boat into the water and just touch the water with the soapy end of the toothpick directly behind the soap boat.
5. Make adjustments to make the boat float straight
6. Race the boat

**WHAT IS HAPPENING?**

The surface tension of the water is broken by the soap, so the boat is pulled forward.