

Dynamics and Statics

Boats: 2. Water powered boat

(Czech Republic)

Background

Water is poured into the cup. This water empties through the straw, pushing the boat forward.

You will need

- ✓ Small cup
- ✓ Straw
- ✓ Cork
- ✓ Hot glue gun

Follow these steps

1. Make a boat shape from layers of cork.
2. Make sure this boat floats.
3. Make a small hole in the bottom of the cup.
4. Push a straw through the hole in the cup. Use the hot glue gun to seal any spaces between the straw and the cup.
5. Glue the cup to the cork with a hot glue gun.
6. Float the boat on the water.
7. Add water to the cup.

So what happened?

As the water empties from the cup the boat will speed forward in the water.

What next?

Try making different shaped boats or boats from different materials that work on this principle.

