

FLOATING ORANGES

This activity is used to show children the importance of wearing life jackets.

Materials:

- Several oranges/tangerines
- Aquarium or clear container
- Small vessel (optional)



Have campers get into groups to take part in the demonstration. Throw an unpeeled orange/tangerine into the clear container filled with water. It will float perfectly on the surface. Explain that the orange represents a person wearing a life jacket that has entered the water. The campers can take part by writing their name on the orange.

Next, peel the orange, explaining that this represents a swimmer or boater taking off their life jacket. Ask the participants what will happen when they do so? The unpeeled orange will immediately sink to the bottom of the container representing a person in trouble in the water. The person is a poor swimmer and drowns. Note the orange peel will float on top the surface representing the life jacket they took off. The campers can peel their own oranges (which gives ownership to the demonstration).

Next, wrap a peeled orange in the orange peeling. This represents a swimmer or boater that is wearing an improperly fitting life jacket. The peeled orange when placed in the water will then come out of the peeling and sink to the bottom while the peel floats on the surface.

A small vessel can be used as well. One can demonstrate the boat capsizing and the occupants entering the water. The boaters (unpeeled oranges) with life jackets on float and the peeled oranges (person without life jackets) sink and drown.

Toni Scott, Physical Education Teacher, Lakeside School, Hot Springs, Ariz., and Brian Westfall, Executive Vice President, National Water Safety Congress, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arkansas Lakes, originally shared this demonstration at the International Boating and Water Safety Summit in San Diego, Calif. It was submitted to *Camp Business* by Bonnie Ecker, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District Office.

BALLS OF FURY (SIMILAR TO ANGRY BIRDS)



Camp Counselors of Make Promises Happen / Central Christian Camp

By using PVC pipe, we built what looks like a miniature football goal post, with a large water balloon slingshot strung between the two center posts. Campers can then shoot small balls, fruit or water balloons at various objects such as cardboard boxes or counselors (water balloons only). Certain objects score a certain amount of points.

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