Elementary Science and Children’s Literature - Matter and Energy

Book Title: Who Sank the Boat?
Author: Pamela Allen
Readability Level: 2.2 Interest Level: K-3

SCIENCE PROCESS SKILLS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation: Observations can be made as animals enter the boat and it sinks deeper and deeper into the water</th>
<th>Classification: Floating vs. sinking</th>
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<tr>
<td>Measurement: Prediction: Predictions can be made concerning when the boat will sink</td>
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<td>Inference: Communicating Data:</td>
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<td>Investigative Process:</td>
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Science Concepts: Sinking and floating, balance and capacity of a boat
Science Vocabulary: Sea, cow, donkey, sheep, pig, mouse, warm, sunny, morning, weight, level, lightest

Michigan Curriculum Framework Science Benchmarks Addressed:
Constructing: SCI I.1E1, SCI I.1E2, SCI I.1E5
Reflecting: SCI II.1E2
Using: *SCI IV.1E1, *SCI IV.1E2

Note: This book won the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year Award, the NSW Premier's Literary Award and the Visual Arts Board Award, 1993

Genre: Narrative (Picture Book)

Story Brief: Five friends go for a boat ride, each entering the boat one-at-a-time. As each animal gets into the boat, the boat sits lower in the water. One-by-one the animal friends get into and jostle the boat, but the boat does not sink until the last and smallest of the animals climbs in. The last picture shows the animals wet and walking home.

Number of Pages: 32

Comments: The rhyming text and illustrations provide a mystery as each animal enters the floating boat. Visually, it is apparent that the boat is sinking deeper into the water as each animal enters the craft. The phrase, “Do you know who sank the boat?” appears after each animal enters the boat, keeping children guessing the outcome. The story is an excellent approach to introducing the science process skills of prediction, observation and inferring. This story can be used as a culminating activity for the lesson Aluminum Foil Boats. Students have experiences to relate to the scientific content of the book. The two activities compliment each other well.

Related Websites:
http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au/gifttal/activities/number.htm
http://www.mcps.org/ces/ca/boat/boatac.html
http://www.mcps.org/ces/ca/boat/webtext.html
http://www.sci.tamucc.edu/~eyoung/capacity_lesson.html