

# **Making Sailboats**





#### **Materials:**

- Gilberto and the Wind
- images of sailboats Resources
- water repellent Beautiful Stuff, i.e.. milk cartons, butter tubs, cereal bowls, Styrofoam (trays) etc.
- modeling clay (to anchor mast and sail)
- straws
- craft sticks
- coffee stirrers
- construction paper
- tape
- waterproof Band-Aids (as adhesives)
- trays
- paper plates

## **Vocabulary:**

- sail(-boat)
- Mast
- Wind
- propel: move something forward
- Hull
- Fasten
- attach

**Preparation:** Set up materials.

## **Intro to Centers:**

"In *Gilberto And The Wind*, Gilberto made a *sailboat* and the *wind propelled* it- blew it across the water. What do you notice?"

"Here are images of *sailboats*. How are these *sailboats* similar to or different from Gilberto's *sailboat*?""

"Sailboats have three main parts. The hull, the mast, and the sail."

"Today, you can use these materials to make *sailboats* in the Art Studio. Use clay to *fasten* your *mast* to your *hull*. What do you notice?"

"Attach a sail to the mast so that the wind can propel your sailboat, like Gilberto's."

Show illustration. Children respond.

Show images. Children respond.

Point to these parts on diagram.

Show materials.

Model using the clay to attach the mast.

Children respond.

#### **During Centers:**

Encourage children to experiment with using different adhesives to attach the mast, hull, and sail to their sailboats. Support children in drawing a diagram of their sailboat and labeling it in Writing and Drawing. Encourage children to notice the different shapes of sails that they and their friends are making. Compare and contrast water-resistant materials vs. non-water resistant materials (cardboard, etc.)

## **Guiding Questions during Centers:**

- How is your sailboat similar to or different from Gilberto's sailboat?
- How is a sailboat similar to or different from other forms of transportation?
- Why are these materials helpful for constructing a sailboat? (Guide children to consider the water-resistant properties of materials vs. non-water-resistant materials)
- Sailboats don't use engines. What are other forms of transportation that are not propelled by engines? (bicycles, skateboards, horses, etc.)

**Thinking & Feedback:** Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe the challenges they might have encountered.

**Documentation:** Collect samples of the children's work as well as photographs and/or video of their process; use the documentation to launch a discussion during Thinking and Feedback.

### **Provocation:**

Encourage children to research other types of boats and describe what they notice.

Point out that flags are often used on boats, and that a special kind of flag, called a nautical flag, is used to communicate (see Resources).

Encourage children to use the nautical flag alphabet, e.g. to make their names.

Encourage children to make shape collages to represent their sailboats.









