# Focused Assessment of Science

**Topic:** Materials  
**Year:** 1  
**Age:** 5-6  
**Title:** Materials for a boat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Working Scientifically Focus Review: using their observations and ideas to suggest answers to questions</th>
<th>Conceptual Knowledge Focus</th>
<th>describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Example**

Children were asked to test materials to see whether they would be suitable to make a boat, for example, to carry a plastic animal across the river. They then made a recommendation for which material could be used to make their boat.

I think the best material for a boat will be **metal** because it **won’t sink**.

I discovered the wood was the best material to make a boat. Why? *As it didn’t sink*.

Children meeting the objective would be able to use their results to explain which material in the collection could be used to make a boat and why. This suggestion could be oral, written or by making their boat. A further interesting challenge could be: can you take a material and make it float sometimes and sink sometimes?

Example from Holt Primary School, Wiltshire