

WORKSHOP EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Built by The Home Depot Kids Workshop

October 2022: Fire Rescue Boat

Ages 5-12

CONNECT.

There are several kinds of vehicles that are designed specifically to help people in need. Can you think of some examples?

It's likely that vehicles such as fire trucks, ambulances, and police cars came to mind. But what about rescue vehicles that travel by air or sea? Helicopters, for instance, can be used to transport patients from one hospital to another. Or, fireboats come to the rescue when there is an emergency at sea.

INVESTIGATE.

You'll need:

- Your Fire Rescue Boat
- Reflective tape
- Strip LED lights
- Small LED flashlight
- Glow-in-the-dark paint
- Paint brush
- Scrap paper
- Glue

Right now, you have a rescue boat. This boat may help those who are in trouble, search for missing people, and even put out fires. But—because this boat doesn't have any lights—it's likely to only tackle these challenges during the day.

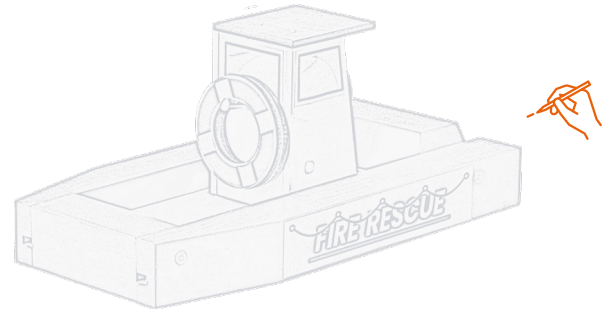
So, can you turn your boat into a rescue boat that takes on nighttime missions?

To get started:

1. Prepare to test the materials above with two questions in mind:
 - Which materials may be best for helping others at sea see the rescue boat as it zooms through the water?
 - Which materials may be best for helping people in the rescue boat see what they're rescuing?
2. Then bring the materials into a dark room or closet and experiment with each one. Observe what each one looks like up close and far away.

Tip: Paint a strip of glow-in-the-dark paint on the scrap paper to test the paint!

3. As you get an idea of how each material sheds light, also think about *where* on the boat each one may be most useful. Once you have ideas in mind, sketch them on the following boat.



INNOVATE.

Now bring the model you sketched above to life!

If you are planning to use glow-in-the-dark paint, begin with this first. Once the paint has thoroughly dried, add the other lights as well. Refer to your sketch as you build, but remember that it's okay to make changes in the moment too.

As you optimize your rescue boat, test it out in the dark after each change and continuously ask yourself what you could do to make it even brighter or more reflective. When your boat is zooming through a dark sea to someone's rescue, there will be no such thing as too much light!



The Fire Rescue Boat you built is a vehicle that can help people in need, just like construction and remodeling uses several different vehicles to get the job done. **Construction remodelers** might use a bulldozer, dump truck, excavator, or crane. Their job could include building and repairing drywall, laying floors or tile, installing plumbing fixtures, or installing trim, molding, and windows.

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