

Boats in Our Harbor

PRE-K · HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS · GLOUCESTER

What boats are in our harbor, and who works there?

One 25-minute circle time plus one 20-minute block center (45 minutes total)

Gloucester is a city by the sea. Boats come and go in Gloucester Harbor every day. Today we will look for shapes in boats, learn about people who work at the harbor and build our own harbor with blocks.

Summary by Cape Ann Current

R1. Boats and Helpers in Gloucester Harbor

Gloucester is a city by the sea. It has a big harbor. A harbor is a calm place near the land where boats can stop, rest and tie up.

Many boats live in Gloucester Harbor. Some are fishing boats. Some are little sailboats. Some are fast boats with motors.

(Star) Can you make the sound of a boat motor?

Fishing boats go out on the ocean. The people who work on them are called fishermen. They catch fish and bring them back to the harbor. Then the fish go to stores and kitchens so people can eat.

(Star) What do you think a fisherman needs to catch fish?

Gloucester has a harbormaster. The harbormaster takes care of the harbor. The harbormaster helps boats go the safe way, helps decide where boats can tie up and helps people who need help on the water. The harbormaster's office is right by the water, on a street called Harbor Loop.

Gloucester also has a Coast Guard station on the harbor. The Coast Guard has strong, fast boats. When a boat needs help, the Coast Guard goes to help.

(Star) If you were on a boat and needed help, who could come?

Boats are made of shapes. A sail can look like a triangle. The bottom of a boat, called the hull, can look like a

long shape. Round windows on a boat are called portholes. They look like circles.

(Star) What shape is a porthole?

Source: Written by Cape Ann Current for teacher read-aloud. Facts about the harbormaster from the City of Gloucester Harbormaster page; facts about the Coast Guard station from the U.S. Coast Guard History Program page "Station Gloucester, Massachusetts." <https://gloucester-ma.gov/174/Harbormaster>. Rights: Text written by Cape Ann Current; facts from City of Gloucester and U.S. Coast Guard History Program pages, cited

A1. Shape hunt boat

Find a shape hidden in our room. Say its name. Put it on our big class boat.

1. Find one shape.
2. Say the name of your shape.
3. Show where your shape goes on the boat: a sail, the hull or a porthole.

A2. Harbor helpers act it out

Watch your teacher pull a helper card. Move and talk like that helper.

1. Be a fisher pulling up a net.
2. Be the harbormaster helping boats go the safe way.
3. Be the Coast Guard driving a fast boat to help.

A3. Build our harbor

Use blocks to build a boat, a dock or a whole harbor. Tell a grown-up about what you built.

1. Build a boat or a dock.
2. Put your boat on the ocean or at the dock.
3. Tell a grown-up one shape you used.
4. Tell a grown-up who works on your boat or at your harbor.

Talk about it

- What did you see in our story that you have seen in real life?

- Why do boats need a harbor?
- Which harbor helper would you like to be? Why?
- What shapes are on your boat?

Show what you learned

Build a boat or a harbor with blocks and tell a grown-up one shape you used and one helper who works at the harbor.