Flatboats

History: Flatboats were used by many settlers traveling into Ohio. Flatboats were rectangular boats that had a flat bottom. Flatboats would typically be made by the family that would use it. Flatboats would carry people, animals and supplies down the Ohio River. After traveling down the Ohio River, most flatboats would become lumber for houses\(^1\). Almost every flatboat was unique and created specially for the needs of the family traveling on it. You can make your own mini flatboat at home.

Materials:

- Wood, sticks, or whatever you would like to make your flatboat out of

Instructions

1. Build a rectangular boat with a flat bottom out of your chosen material. For the most historic accuracy, add a siding and a little cabin in the boat.

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\(^1\) https://heritagevillagecincinnati.org/about-heritage-village-museum-living-history-of-19th-century-in-southwestern-ohio/flatboat/