

# EXPLORE!

WEDNESDAYS

IN NATURE LAB

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## MAKE YOUR OWN



### FLAGSHIP



The *US Brig Niagara* fought in the War of 1812. It was a two-mast ship with a square rigging and 15 sails. It was 198 feet in length. Its highest mast was 118 feet above the water line. She carried 2 long guns and 18 carronades (or short, smoothbore cast iron cannons) and carried a crew of 155 sailors.

*follow these steps to make your own flagship.*

1



To make the flagship you will need:

- a milk jug (any size you have handy)
- 2 pieces of paper
- 4 straws

2



Some other items you could also use:

- Scissors
- Tape
- Hole punch
- Rocks
- Permanent markers
- Printed images from this worksheet
- Small rubber bands

3



Insert one straw into the other to make two long straws.



4



Mark two spots on the top of the jug (use one of the flat sides with the handle to the side). Ask an adult to punch out 2 holes the size of the straw.

5



Insert the two straws into the holes. Add rubber bands to the straw to help position the sail. Tape can also work if you don't have rubber bands. Tape straws to the jug to help them stand straight.

6



Punch 2 holes in the center of each paper directly across from each other



7



Insert the paper onto each straw. Put the second rubber band on the straw. Use the rubber bands to adjust the sail position. If you do not have rubber bands, you can also use tape.

8



Decorate your flagship. Print, cut out and attach these flags that flew on the *US Brig Niagara*.

9



Test your flagship!  
Does it float?

10



If your flagship doesn't sail well, add a few rocks as ballasts. Be sure to securely attach the lid when you are done!