Boy, Oh Buoyancy

Taken from Fifer, F. & Ledbetter, C. (2000). *Penny Ante Science®*. Dallas: SCE Associates.

Use these **extensions** to inspire your own creativity to integrate these activities into your present curriculum.

Ecology: Organisms in the ocean occupy three distinct niches: the floaters (planktonic organisms), the swimmers (nektonic organisms), and the bottom dwellers (benthic organisms). How do these living beings control where they are in the water column?

Geology: Just as liquids have different densities, so do tectonic plates. One of the reasons plates dive under one another is that one is made of less dense materials than the other. What makes something buoyant? How can something as large as a tectonic plate float?

Humankind: Why don't we sink in the ocean? Why do most of us sink in fresh water? How do ocean dwellers control their depth? All of these questions can be answered by considering what makes up living organisms.

These detailed **correlations** indicate direct applicability to specific standards; others may be implied.

Texas Essential Knowledge & Skills (TEKS)*	K-2	3-6	6-8	IPC, Biology, Chemistry, Physics	Aquatics, Astronomy, Environmental, GMO
		4.1, 2, 4, 7	8.1, 4, 5, 10	IPC.1 Chemistry.1, 4, 15 Physics.1	Aquatics.1, 3, 4, 9 GMO.1, 2, 10

* Compiled from Ledbetter, C. (2000) *TEKSing through Penny Ante Science®*. Dallas: SCE Associates. Specific listing within any category pre-supposes applicability to the general process TEKS for each area.