

Float or Sink – Density

Note-taking Guide - Answer Key

*sink, less, identify, lighter, density, heavier, float, substances, space,
greater, denser, closely*

The apples float in water because they are less dense, or have a lower density, than water.

Density refers to how closely the particles that make matter are packed together.

The more closely the particles are packed, the greater is its density.

Different substances have different densities. Density is a physical property of matter and helps to identify a substance.

Density is also important in determining whether an object will sink or float.

A penny will sink because it is denser than water. This means that the penny is heavier than the amount of water that takes up the same space as the penny.

A plastic button will float because it is less dense than water.

This means that the plastic button is lighter than the amount of water that takes up the same space as the button.