

Titanic

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Engineering, History, Shipwreck, Transportation

Book Brief: Over 100 years ago, the “unsinkable” ship *Titanic* hit an iceberg and sank. This book explores life

on the *Titanic* before, during, and after the tragic wreck.

Author: Sean Callery



TIME TO READ!



Note: Over 1,500 people died when Titanic sank, including some children and families. Because of its serious topic, this book should only be read with older children.

Before reading, build background: *Titanic* sank in 1912 while crossing the Atlantic Ocean. Why were passenger ships so important back then?

While reading, make comparisons: This book has photographs from *Titanic*'s original trip. Based on the pictures, how was life different in 1912? Would you have wanted to live back then?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Why did people think *Titanic* was unsinkable?
- ◆ Why did it sink?
- ◆ What could the crew have done differently to save more lives?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

BANANA ICE CREAM

Ingredients: 2 bananas

Titanic carried 440 gallons of ice cream for its hungry passengers. Make your own ice cream! Peel and slice two bananas; freeze until solid. Put the frozen bananas in a blender and blend until smooth and creamy. Spoon into a bowl and enjoy!

CRACK THE CODE

Materials: paper, pencils or pens

Radio operators on *Titanic* used Morse code to send messages. In Morse code, dashes or dots stand for letters. Write a message to a friend and translate it into Morse code using this chart: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morse_code. Can your friend crack the code? Visit <http://morsecode.scphillips.com/jtranslator.html> to hear your message the way a radio operator would have sent it.

TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION

Materials: paper, pencil, scrap materials, scissors, tape or glue

Before airplanes, people crossed the ocean on ships like *Titanic*. A hundred years from now, how will people travel long distances? Design a vehicle people will use in the future. How does it work? What does it use for energy? How many people can it hold? Build a model of your design using scrap materials. What will you call your creation?

TECHNOLOGY LINK

Visit www.scholastic.com/discovermore and enter the code at the beginning of the book to download a free digital book with true stories from *Titanic* passengers.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Scholastic Discover More: World War II (2013)
Life Cycles: Ocean (2012)
Hide and Seek: In the Jungle (2010)



Reading Is
Fundamental