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Learning through “the unsinkable Titanic”.

Lee, Ngan Hoe (ed.) et al., Mathematical modelling. From theory to practice. Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific (ISBN 978-981-4546-91-1/hbk; 978-981-4546-93-5/ebook). Series on Mathematics Education 8, 231-239 (2015).

Summary: This chapter describes how some Primary 5 pupils from Singapore interpreted, carried out and presented a paper-folding mathematical modelling task over a period of three days during a Mathematical Modelling Outreach. The students who worked in groups of 3 had to design and fold a paper boat that could carry different loads. The data shows that the students were deeply engaged in the modelling task and used several mathematical concepts to come up with a workable design. We discuss the implications of such tasks for the Singapore mathematics curriculum which is centred on problem solving.

Classification: M53 D83 U63

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