

## WWW Maritime Game Show Activity

(Spin the Wheel & Test Your Knowledge)

**Lesson Objective:** Demonstrate understanding of maritime topics including waterways, commodities, and transportation modes by answering questions in a game show format.

### Materials

- Game show wheel (physical or digital, divided into color-coded categories)
- Category cards (color-coded to match wheel sections)
- Question cards (easy, medium, hard levels per category)
- Optional: Scoreboard (whiteboard, poster, or digital)
- Optional: Buzzers or bells for team play
- Clipboards and pens for tracking answers or scoring

### Instructions

1. Spin the wheel to land on a category.
2. Draw a question card from the matching color-coded deck.
3. Answer the question within 30 seconds.
4. Earn points for correct answers:
  - Easy: 1 point
  - Medium: 2 points
  - Hard: 3 points
5. Compete individually or in teams. First to reach 15 points wins!

## Sample Questions by Category: (YOU CAN MAKE UP YOUR OWN)

### Our Waterways (Blue)

- Easy: What is the longest river in the U.S.? (*The Mississippi River*)
- Medium: Name two major inland ports. (*Port of St. Louis, MO, & Port of Pittsburgh, PA*)
- Hard: Explain how a lock system works.  
(*A lock raises or lowers boats between stretches of water at different levels by enclosing them in a chamber and adjusting water levels using gates and valves*)

### Commodities (Green)

- Easy: What commodity is most commonly shipped by barge? (*Grain*)
- Medium: Why is grain often shipped via waterways?  
(*It's cost-effective for bulk transport, especially over long distances, and barges can carry large volumes with lower fuel usage*)
- Hard: Describe the journey of coal from mine to export.  
(*Coal is mined, loaded onto trains or trucks, transferred to barges or ships at terminals, and transported to domestic or international buyers*)

### Modes of Transport (Red)

- Easy: Name one mode of freight transportation. (*Barge-others include rail, truck, ship*)
- Medium: What is intermodal transport?  
(*The use of two or more modes of transportation e.g., rail + truck to move goods without handling the cargo itself during mode changes*)
- Hard: Compare efficiency of barge vs. rail.  
(*Barges are more fuel-efficient and can carry more cargo per trip, but rail is faster and better for time-sensitive deliveries. Barges are ideal for bulk, non-perishable goods*)

### Maritime Basics (Yellow)

- Easy: What is a bowline knot used for?  
(*Creating a secure loop that doesn't slip; often used in rescue or mooring*)
- Medium: Define the term "draft" in shipping.  
(*The vertical distance between the waterline and the bottom of the ship's hull; it determines how deep a vessel sits in the water*)
- Hard: How do mariners use buoys for navigation?  
(*Buoys mark channels, hazards, and safe water. Mariners use their shapes, colors, and light patterns to determine position and direction*)