

WWW Maritime Knot Tying Activity

(Learn & Practice Essential Maritime Knots)

Lesson Objective: Identify, tie, and apply key maritime knots used in rescue, mooring, and line handling with an emphasis on precision, safety, and teamwork in maritime operations.

Materials

- Rope or cord (3–6 ft lengths per participant)
- Practice rails or poles (PVC pipe, broom handles, or dowels)
- Knot diagram cards, printed visuals, examples of knots, or model demonstration (I Do, We Do, You Do strategy)
- Stopwatch or timer
- Station signage and role cards
- Optional: Colored tape to mark knot zones or simulate line tension

Knot Name	Description	Common Use
Bow Line	Loop with a secure, non-slip finish	Rescue, securing lines
Clove Hitch	Two loops around a post or rail	Temporary fastening to poles
Figure Eight	Simple stopper knot	Preventing rope from slipping
Square Knot	Two overhand knots tied in opposite directions	Joining two ropes of equal size
Sheet Bend	Loop and tuck to join ropes of different sizes	Line extension or repair

*Add any additional knots that are not listed

Instructions

1. Choose a knot from the list above.
2. Use rope and diagram to tie the knot around a rail or in freehand.
3. Practice tying each knot **three times** for consistency.
4. Apply knots in simulated maritime tasks (e.g., securing gear, joining lines).

(Optional) Knot Relay Race

- Each team member must tie a different knot correctly before passing the rope to the next person.
- Time the relay and aim for accuracy + speed