

Operation Big Lift

The Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) uses cranes to help lift and move heavy things such as supplies, equipment, and small boats. These cranes are extremely strong and help sailors get their ships ready for deployments (missions). They are the Navy's super helpers, making sure everything is in place and ready to go!

Every RNZN ship has two davits. **A davit is a small crane that is used to launch the RHIBs (rigid hulled inflatable boats).**

The RHIBs are sent out with small groups of people to do special jobs when needed.

Two ships also have other cranes on board which help the ships to carry out their roles. The amount the cranes can lift is measured in tonnes. One tonne is equal to 1000 kg. An average car weighs just two tonnes.



HMNZS Aotearoa's 25 tonne crane helps lift things on and off the ship. This is useful when the ship takes equipment down to Scott Base in Antarctica for the New Zealand scientist team based there. Aotearoa is the only Polar Class ship in the Navy, which means it can break through ice! **When HMNZS Aotearoa made its first trip to Antarctica in 2022, it was the first Royal New Zealand Navy ship to take supplies there in 50 years!**

HMNZS Canterbury has two 60 tonne cranes that can even load heavy vehicles. These have been used many times as the ship is often asked to help when there is a natural disaster, both here and in the Pacific.



DID YOU KNOW
HMNZS Aotearoa can
break through ice
up to 120 cm thick!

CHALLENGE



Operation Big Lift



YOU WILL NEED

- 15 ice cream sticks
- 2 syringes
- 1 tube
- Pipe cleaner
- Tape
- An object to lift
- Water



HMNZS CANTERBURY'S
MASSIVE 60 TONNE
CRANE HARD AT WORK!



YOUR CHALLENGE

1. Make a crane that sits on a table and will lift an object.
2. To operate the crane you can only push one end of the syringe.