36. The problem intends for the children to be completely above water. The total downward pull of gravity on the system is

$$3(356\,\mathrm{N}) + N\rho_{\mathrm{wood}}gV$$

where N is the (minimum) number of logs needed to keep them afloat and V is the volume of each log: $V = \pi(0.15\,\mathrm{m})^2(1.80\,\mathrm{m}) = 0.13\,\mathrm{m}^3$. The buoyant force is $F_b = \rho_{\mathrm{water}}gV_{\mathrm{submerged}}$ where we require $V_{\mathrm{submerged}} \leq NV$. The density of water is $1000\,\mathrm{kg/m}^3$. To obtain the minimum value of N we set $V_{\mathrm{submerged}} = NV$ and then round our "answer" for N up to the nearest integer:

$$3(356\,\mathrm{N}) + N\rho_{\mathrm{wood}}gV = \rho_{\mathrm{water}}gNV \quad \Longrightarrow \quad N = \frac{3(356\,\mathrm{N})}{gV\left(\rho_{\mathrm{water}} - \rho_{\mathrm{wood}}\right)}$$

which yields $N = 4.28 \;\rightarrow\; 5$ logs.