

Making and Using a Rain Gauge

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Photographs by Lindsay Edwards



PM



Making and Using a Rain Gauge

Level 21

Running Words 673 Text Type Procedure

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Technologies (Design and Technologies); Science (Earth and Space Sciences)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the steps in the correct order to achieve the goals.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 What is the purpose of a rain gauge?
- 2 What do you use the two plastic bottles for?
- 3 Why are the holes in the bottom of the holder needed?

Inferential

- 4 Why does the tape you use to make the rain gauge need to be waterproof?
- 5 What is the purpose of the smaller lines you draw between the bigger lines on the rain gauge?
- 6 Why does the rain gauge need to stay upright?
- 7 Why is it important to tip the water out of the rain gauge when you have measured the rainfall?
- 8 Apart from seeing which were the wettest days, what other information can be seen by studying the graph?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 What other information can be shown on a graph, apart from rainfall?
- 10 Why do people want to know how much rain has fallen in a particular area?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 21	Procedural Recount	<i>How to Put on a Class Play</i>
Level 21	Narrative	<i>Fish Rescue</i>
Level 22	Procedure	<i>Race Through Space!</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>Ruben's Race Car</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>Space Junk</i>



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Measuring the Rain

At some times of the year, it rains a lot.

At other times, it may rain less.

A rain gauge is a tool that can be used to measure **rainfall**.



Scientists find out information about rainfall from rain gauges.

They use the information to make rainfall graphs. They study the graphs to see how much rain falls over days, months and years.

You can make your own rain gauge and use it, too!



Scientists check the water level in a rain gauge.

Goals

- To make and use a rain gauge to measure how much rain falls
- To draw some rainfall graphs

Materials

You will need:

- a plastic bottle with a flat bottom
- another plastic bottle that is wider than the first
- a permanent marker
- a pair of scissors
- waterproof tape



- a 30 cm ruler



- a **bamboo** stake



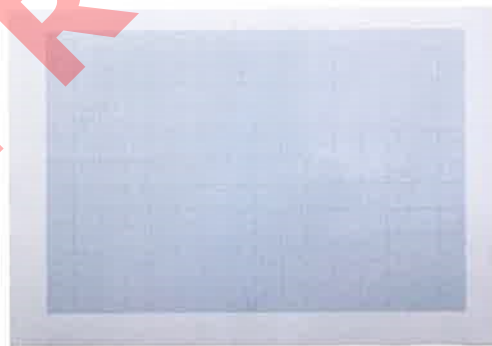
- a hammer



- a notebook and pencil



- graph paper



- seven coloured markers.



Steps

Making the Rain Gauge

1. Take the tops off the bottles.
2. Rinse the bottles with water, so they are clean.
3. Peel the labels off the bottles.



4. Make a mark on the smaller bottle, about one quarter of the way from the top.



5. Ask an adult to cut around the bottle with scissors, where you made the mark.

The bottle will now be in two pieces.

You will have a top part and a bottom part.