

Name: _____ Date: _____

Make a Rain Gauge

You can make your own rain gauge!

WHAT YOU NEED

- 2-L (litre) plastic pop bottle (without the label)
- 15-cm (centimetre) ruler
- felt-tip pen
- clear tape
- scissors
- stones or sand
- water

WHAT TO DO

1. Use the top of the bottle as the starting point. Use the ruler to measure about 10 cm down. Use the felt-tip pen to mark a line at this spot on the bottle. With an adult's help, carefully cut off the top part of the bottle at the line. Save the top part.
2. Put the stones or sand in the bottom of the bottle until the bumps on the bottom are covered. This adds some weight to the rain gauge so that it won't tip over easily.
3. Tape the ruler to the outside of the bottle. The 0-cm mark on the ruler should be 1 cm or 2 cm above the stones or sand.
4. Pour some water into the bottle, until the water level is even with the 0-cm mark on the ruler.
5. Take the top of the bottle that you cut off, and turn it upside down so that it looks like a funnel. Put it in the top of the bottle. Your rain gauge is ready to use!
6. Place your rain gauge outside, in an open area where it will be left undisturbed. Make sure that it is on a flat surface.
7. After there has been rain, take a reading by looking at the water level on the ruler. Then pour out the water until the water level is back to 0. If you pour out too much water, just put some back until you get to the 0. If your rain gauge is outside for several days without rainfall, check it to make sure that the water level is still at 0. Add some water if needed.

