

Name _____ Date _____

Student Worksheet

Activity 3.1.5, Making Simple Weather Instruments

Rain Gauge

OBJECTIVES

- To build a simple weather instruments relying on the same principles found in professional meteorologists' instruments.
- To observe how weather instruments work.
- To relate how and why these instruments work to fundamental scientific principles, i.e. air has weight.
- To compare the accuracy of hand-made instruments with actual weather instruments

MATERIALS

- jar or can with straight sides, a flat bottom and a opening approximately the same size as the bottom
- ruler
- WEATHERLog

PROCEDURE

1. Place the jar or can in an area away from buildings or trees.
2. Check your rain gauge each day for the next week. Make sure you check at the same time each day.
3. Use a metric ruler to measure the amount of rainfall that fell in the past 24 hours. Record your measurement in centimeters in your WEATHERLog.

OBSERVATIONS

Record your daily measurements in your WEATHERLog.

<http://sln.fi.edu/weather/todo/r-gauge.html>

The Franklin Institute: Franklin's Forecast

<http://www.mattdennis.com/skywarn/tormake11.html>

Kansas Tornado Chasers Activities: weather instruments you can make.