

Make your own rain gauge

You will need:

- A clean, empty 1.25 litre bottle
- Some stones or pebbles
- Tape
- Marker (felt pen)
- A ruler



Steps:

1. Cut the top off the bottle (make sure you have an adult to help you).
2. Place some stones in the bottom of the bottle. Turn the top upside down and tape it to the bottle.
3. Use a ruler and marker pen to make a scale (like a ruler) on the bottle. Millimetres is best, but centimetres will also be fine.
4. Pour water into the bottle until it reaches the bottom strip on the scale. Congratulations, you have finished your rain gauge!
5. Put your rain gauge outside where it can collect water when it starts raining. After a rain shower has finished, check to see how far up the scale the water has risen.

Activity:

- Try comparing the amount of rain to the length of time the shower lasted. Was it a short and heavy rain shower or a long and light one?
- You can also graph the rainfall over weeks or even months to see how different seasons affect the amount of rainfall received.

