

# Make a Rain Gauge!

Have your students make a rain gauge to measure daily rainfall.

## What You Need

Clear plastic container about 8-10 inches high

Small pebbles or marbles

Measuring Gauge (laminated)

A 12-inch plastic ruler

“My Weather Report” Chart to record findings

## What to Do

Place several pebbles into the container and add water until it is about one-inch deep. (Measure with the 12-inch ruler.) Paste the laminated “measuring gauge” to the side of the container. The bottom line should be at the one-inch water level.

Note: The pebbles and water will make the container steady against wind and the one-inch of water will provide a base level for measurements.

Place the rain gauge outside on a level surface. Make sure it is away from any overhanging tree branches or building eaves. Students can monitor the gauge every day. Have them measure the rainfall at about the same time each day. Instruct the students to record their readings on the “My Weather Report” chart.

## To Measure Rainfall

To accurately measure the rainfall, the student must be at eye level with the top of the water. Have him or her subtract the previous day's reading from the new reading to determine how much rain fell each day. Make sure students keep the original one inch of water in the container in order to measure accurately.

## Measuring Gauge

