

Cross-Curricular: Bouncy Ben's Barometer!

Bouncy Ben does not like to come out of his burrow if there is bad weather on the way. He has made a barometer for his burrow!

What is a barometer?

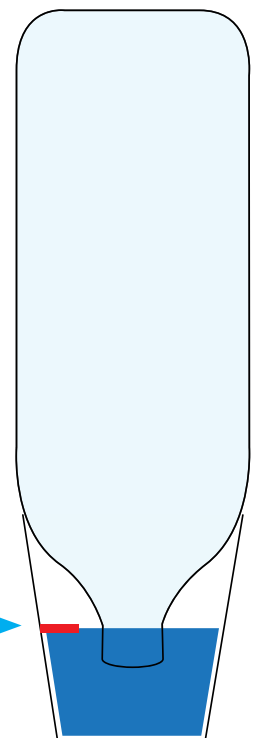
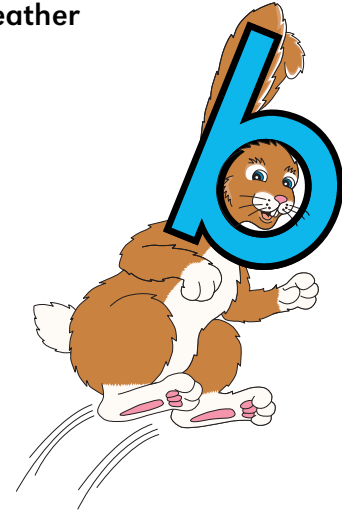
A **barometer** is a weather instrument that measures atmospheric pressure (the weight of the air in the atmosphere).

You will need

- A clear plastic cup
- Some water
- Some food colouring
- A 2 litre plastic bottle
- A marker pen

Instructions

1. Pour a few inches of water into a plastic cup. Add a few drops of food colouring. Bouncy Ben likes blue!
2. Place a plastic bottle upside down inside the cup as shown. The bottle opening must be below the waterline but not touching the bottom of the cup. Balance that bottle carefully in a spot that it can't be knocked! Use a marker and draw a line on the side of the cup to show the water level.
3. After a few days check the barometer again. If the weather has been bad the air pressure will have dropped. The level in the cup will have risen up.
4. When the weather gets better, the air pressure rises. The level in the cup will drop and the level in the bottle will rise up.
5. Bouncy Ben knows that when the level in the bottle is bigger, it's better weather and he can bounce out of his burrow!



Water level mark →

