

## Take It Home

### MAKE YOUR OWN RAIN GAUGE

**It Can Be Fun!** Here is an easy experiment that you can do at home.

#### Materials:

- plastic soda bottle
- permanent marker
- scissors
- handful of stones or gravel
- **water**
- ruler

#### Directions:

1. Ask an adult to cut off the top section of the bottle.
2. To keep the bottle from tipping over, fill the bottom of the bottle with a handful of small stones or gravel. Then pour **water** to cover the stones and draw a line across the bottle and label it "0" to mark the base level.
3. Beginning at the base level, draw a few long lines to represent 1-inch measurements. Then draw shorter lines in between to represent half-inch measurements.
4. Place your rain gauge in an open area outdoors.
5. Be sure to maintain **water** at baseline level to make up for evaporation.
6. Measure the collected rainfall and record your results on a chart. Include the date, weather conditions (sunny, cloudy, rainy) and the amount of rainfall, if there is any.
7. Be sure to empty the bottle, maintaining the baseline level, each time you measure and record any collected rainfall.

*How did your rainfall record compare to the records of other classmates?  
Who received the most rain? Who received the least?*

