MAKE A RAIN GAUGE

MATERIALS
1. Soda bottle, 2-liter
1. Mat knife or scissors
• Duct tape
1. Permanent marking pen, fine-tip
1. Cup of pebbles or marbles
1. Ruler

CONSTRUCTION

1. Discard the bottle cap. Measure up 18 cm (7”) from the bottom as shown. Cut the soda bottle into two pieces. Cut a flap about 2 cm (1”) on a side 5 cm (2”) below this cut. This will allow you to pour water out of the gauge to return to zero after rain has been collected and measured.

2. Add a cup of pebbles or marbles to the base of the soda bottle.

3. Turn the top of the soda bottle over to make a funnel. Insert it into the bottle base. Use duct tape to join the two pieces.

4. You will measure rain in centimeters or inches. Measure up 7 cm (3”) from the base and draw a line with the permanent marking pen. Label this baseline “0.” From here measure and mark each centimeter with a line. Mark and label six lines:
   1 cm, 2 cm, and so forth. (If inches are used, mark and label each half inch.)

5. To use the rain gauge, add water to the zero line. Place the rain gauge outside in an open area (no overhangs) where it will not be disturbed while collecting rain.

NOTE: Add more pebbles or marbles for ballast if you live in a windy area.