Make a RAIN GAUGE

Thanks to WESSA EnviroKids Magazine for the source material used to create this activity page.

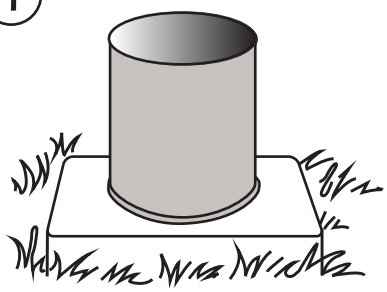
Here is an easy, but accurate rain gauge to make - suitable for younger children. Measure and record your rainfall each day during the rainy season, and make some fun charts to show others. Make a rain gauge for a friend, so that you can compare notes on how much rain fell in different areas.

Note: If possible choose a tin can deep enough to hold an average day's rainfall for your area, or simply empty the can more often and add up each day's rain. The can must not have a rim that makes the mouth narrower than the base.

Tin Can RAIN GAUGE

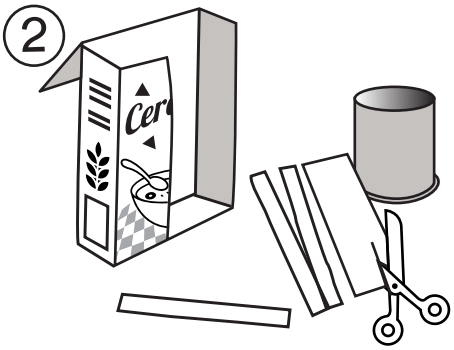
You need:
- tin can
- breakfast cereal box
- glue
- scissors
- ruler
- pencil

1



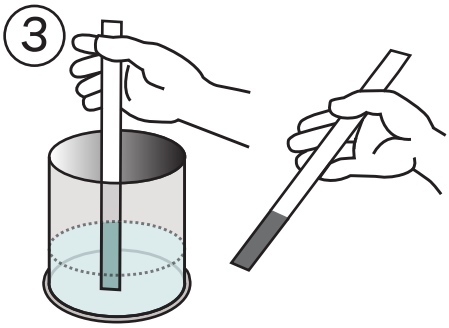
Put an empty tin on a flat surface out in the garden, well away from overhanging trees, shrubs and sprinklers.

2



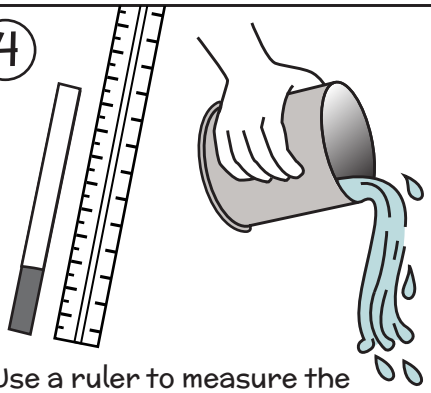
Make some rain dipsticks by cutting long 1cm-wide strips from the breakfast cereal box. The sticks must be longer than the height of the can.

3



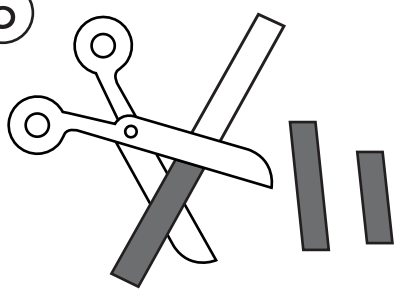
Measure the rainfall each day by dipping the dipstick into the can so that it touches the bottom. See how the rain leaves a wet mark on the cardboard.

4



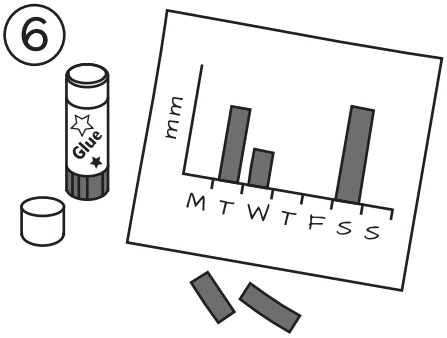
Use a ruler to measure the length of the wet part of the cardboard in millimetres - this is how much it has rained. Empty the can.

5



Cut the wet piece off the dipstick and let it dry. Keep it flat and write the date and rainfall in millimetres on it.

6



When your piece of dipstick is dry, make a fun chart of the rainfall. Glue each piece to paper to form a record of rainfall in your garden.