

A Barometer



Did you make the rain gauge shown in Chapter 4? Here is another weather instrument you can try.

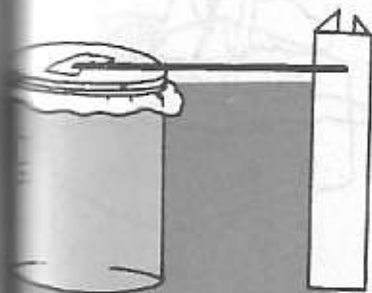
You need:

1. A large wide-mouth jar, like a peanut butter jar
2. A balloon
3. Rubber bands
4. A drinking straw
5. Tape
6. Stiff paper or cardboard



How to make it:

1. Wash the jar. Discard the lid.
2. Cut a piece of balloon larger than the mouth of the glass jar.
3. Stretch the balloon smoothly and tightly over the mouth of the jar. Hold it in place with rubber bands.
4. Carefully cut the ends of the straw diagonally, so that they are pointed. Tape one end of the straw to the centre of the balloon. The straw will be the pointer.
5. Fold the paper or cardboard to make a long triangular tube that will stand by itself. Hold it together with tape.
6. Stand the jar on a flat surface away from sources of heat such as a radiator, stove, or sunlight.
7. Stand the tube near, but not quite touching, the end of your pointer. Make a mark on the tube at the tip of the pointer and write down what the weather is like (sunny, cloudy, stormy) beside the mark. Once or twice a day, make a mark on your tube and write down what the weather is like.
8. After a few days, you should find that the weather is usually sunny when the pointer moves toward the top of the tube and cloudy or stormy when the pointer moves towards the bottom of the tube.



Computer-type Circuits

A barometer measures changes in air pressure. When the pressure goes down, the weather turns cloudy: when the pressure goes up, the weather usually clears.

My Barometer Record

	Time of Day Twice a day	Pointer Up/Down	Weather Sunny/Cloudy
1			
1			
2			
2			
3			
3			
4			
4			
5			
5			

