

ACTIVITY SHEET

KS3 Weather and Climate

A rain gauge

When rain falls, the water soaks into ground, evaporates in puddles or drains away. To measure rainfall you need to buy or make a rain gauge.

To make a rain gauge

- cut the neck off a large plastic drinks bottle
- turn the neck upside down and rest inside the bottle
- stick strips of tape 10mm apart up the sides
- find sheltered site not too close to buildings or overhanging trees
- measure the rain water from time to time and note it below



Measure rainfall

The basic measurement of rainfall is that of how much rain falls in a specified period of time. This is usually measured in millimetres.

Measure rainfall over a period of time - 24 hrs or one week

| Date | Time | Rainfall (mm) | Comments |
|------|------|---------------|----------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Compare your data

Find rainfall data for your area and compare your results with:

- same time in a previous year
- same time and date in another part of the country

Some information is available on the Met Office site:

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/past-uk-weather-events>