



MAKING A BAROMETER

with a Jar and Balloon

A barometer is a simple tool that helps us measure air pressure.

Changes in air pressure can help us predict the weather!

Name: _____

Date: _____

QUESTION

Can I build a barometer with simple materials, and will it change as the weather changes?

MATERIALS

- 1 clear jar (glass works best)
- 1 balloon
- 1 rubber band
- 1 straw
- Tape
- Marker
- Ruler
- Notebook

HOW IT WORKS

Air has weight and pushes down on everything. When air pressure goes up (high pressure), it pushes down on the balloon and the straw goes down. When air pressure goes down (low pressure), the balloon rises and the straw goes up.

High pressure usually means fair weather. Low pressure often means clouds, rain, or storms.

WHAT TO DO

1. Stretch the balloon over the opening of the jar.
2. Use a rubber band to secure the balloon tightly around the jar.
3. Place the straw through the balloon so that about 1–2 cm of the straw is inside the jar.
4. Seal around the straw with tape to make the balloon as airtight as possible.
5. Use a marker and ruler to make a scale on the straw. Measure up from the balloon and mark in centimeters.
6. Place your barometer in a safe spot where it can stay upright.
7. Observe the straw level each day and record your results.



OBSERVATIONS

Date	Time	Straw Level (cm)	Weather	Notes

CONCLUSION

What did you notice about your barometer over time?

What did you learn? _____



SCIENCE TIP: For best results, keep your barometer indoors and away from direct sunlight and drafts.