



Be a Meteorologist!

Background

During the hot summer months in Southern Nevada, moist, unstable air from the Gulf of Mexico is rapidly forced upward by hot air currents. This causes severe thunderstorms with intense rain fall which can cause flash floods. On average Southern Nevada gets 4 inches of rain per year. However, in some severe storms, we can get as much as 3 inches of rain in 90 minutes!

Meteorologists are scientists who study the atmosphere. They examine the effects of weather on the environment, predict weather and investigate climate trends.

Materials

- Scissors
- Tape
- Clear, flat-bottom jar
- Pen/pencil and paper

Instructions

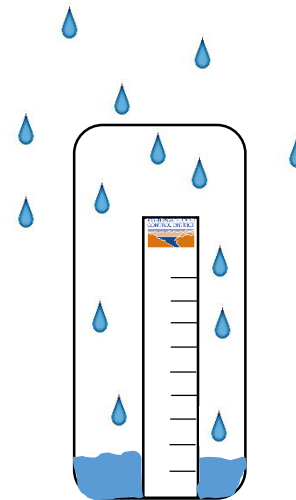
Step 1: Cut the ruler at the bottom of this paper.

Step 2: Tape the ruler outside of the clear jar. Make sure that the bottom of the ruler is even with the bottom of the jar.

Step 3: Cover all of the ruler with clear tape to protect it from the rain.

Step 4: Set your rain gauge on a flat surface where rain can fill it up.

Step 5: When it rains, record how much rain falls in your jar.



Remember: Always pay attention to the weather, do NOT play outside in a thunderstorm!

