






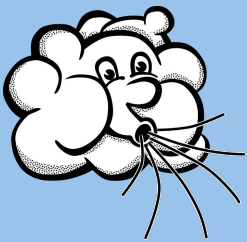


# Feeling the Pressure

6th - 8th  
Grade

## Materials

-  Glass, jar, or can
-  Balloon or plastic wrap
-  A straw
-  Rubber band
-  Index card or lined notebook paper
-  Tape
-  Scissors



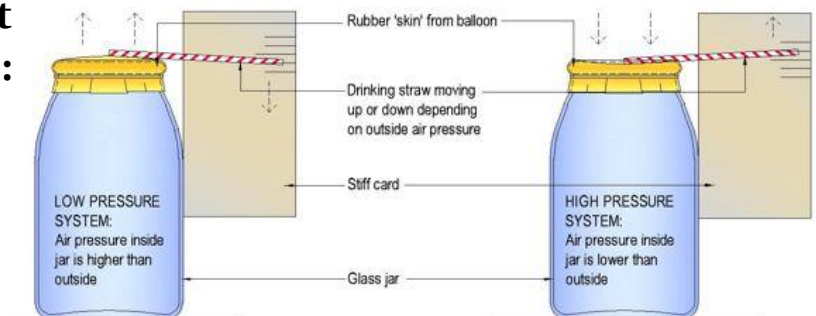
Students will learn about atmospheric pressure & how using barometers can help track & predict weather patterns.

## Directions

1. Cover the top of your container with plastic wrap. You want to create an airtight seal and a smooth surface. For a sturdier barometer you can use a balloon with the narrow part cut off in place of the plastic wrap.
2. Secure the plastic wrap with a rubber band. Make sure to get a good seal around the rim of the container.
3. Lay the straw over the top of the wrapped container so that the straw covers about  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the opening.
4. Secure the straw with a piece of tape.
5. Set up your barometer with a sheet of notebook paper behind it and mark the location of the straw on your card or paper.
6. Over time the straw will move up and down in response to changes in air pressure. Watch the movement of the straw and record the new readings.

**Tip: your barometer needs a constant temperature in order to be accurate. Keep it away from a window or other places that experience big temperature changes.**

## How it works:



[Click here to find out more about how pressure affects the weather!](#)