

Resources – Weather Activities

Barometer – How to Make a Barometer

https://sercc.com/education_files/barometer.pdf

https://www.sercc.com/education_files/barometer.pdf

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/projects/barometer.html>

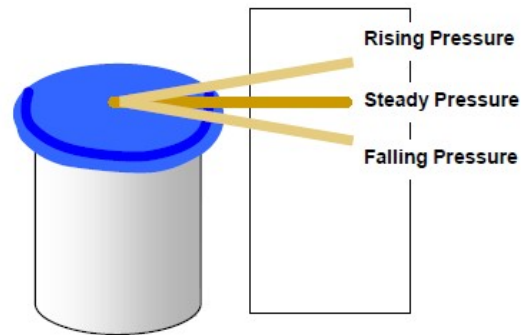


Southeast Regional Climate Center

How to Make a Barometer

Materials Needed:

- small glass jar or tin can
- large (12") round balloon
- rubber band
- scissors
- tape
- small stirring stick
- 5" x 7" index card



Step 1

Use the scissors to cut the top of the balloon off.

Step 2

Wrap the top of the balloon tightly around the opening of the jar or can and seal it with the rubber band. Try to get the balloon as tight as possible and make sure that the rubber band is tight enough so that no air will get in.

Step 3

Tape the stirring stick to the center of the stretched out balloon so that one end of the stick points away from the jar or can.

Step 4

Place the jar or can next to a wall. Tape the index card to the wall so that the end of the stick is pointing to it.

Step 5

Make a mark on the index card next to where the stick is pointing. You may wish to label the mark with the date and time.

Step 6

Look at the card each day and see if the stick points above or below where it did the day before. If it points **above** the previous day's mark, the pressure is **rising**. If it points **below** the previous day's mark, the pressure is **falling**.

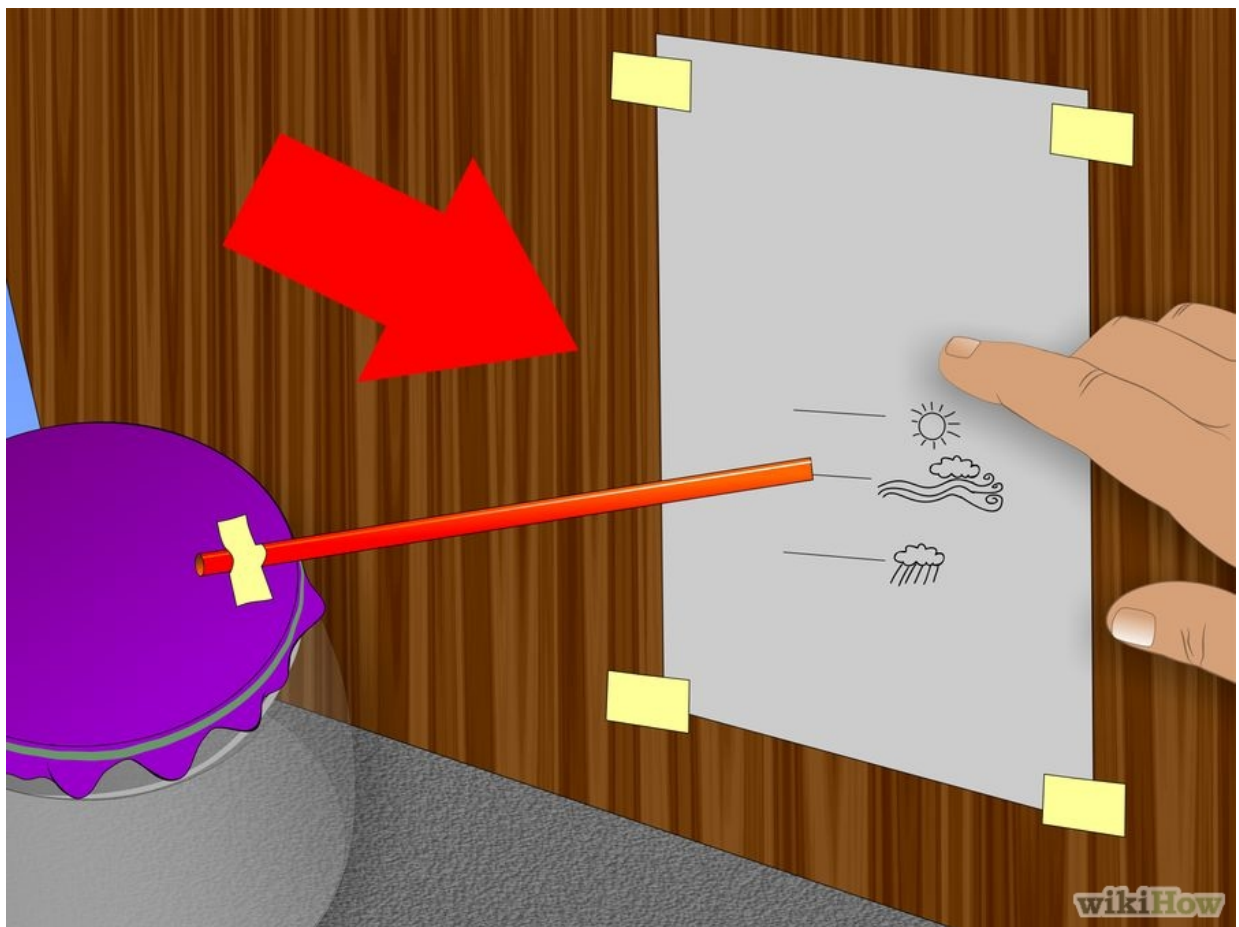
What's happening?

When there is low air pressure the balloon should expand out and the straw will point down. This is because the air inside the balloon now has relatively more air pressure compared to the air outside, it pushes the balloon out as a result.

When there is high air pressure the air on the outside will push the balloon into the jar and the straw will point upwards. The air inside the balloon now has relatively less pressure, this pushes the balloon inwards as a result.

In general, high air pressure indicates fair weather while low air pressure indicates that bad weather is more likely. Although forecasting the weather isn't an exact science and can be very difficult at times, give it a go and see how accurate you are.

Combine your results with [wind speed](#), [wind direction](#) and [rain fall](#) for a full weather report.



Current Barometric Pressure:

<http://www.localconditions.com/weather-indianapolis-indiana/47429/>