

## Making a DIY Rain Gauge:

Materials:

- A 2 liter plastic water or pop bottle with smooth sides
- A ruler, permanent marker, and tape
- Scissors and several paperclips
- Modeling clay

Using the scissors, cut the top 1/3 of the bottle off. Normally these bottles have an uneven, molded bottom. To level the bottom for accurate rainfall measurement, fill the bottom of the bottle with modeling clay, up to where the walls are straight. Make sure the clay is level. Let it harden.

Place a section of tape along the side of the bottle. Using the ruler, mark the tape to measure the rain by placing the '0' against the top of the modeling clay and marking inch, quarter inch, half inch and 3/4 inch marks on the bottle. Place the top of the bottle, inverted, into the bottom of the liter. If it wants to slip, secure it with paperclips.

Place your rain gauge outside, away from trees and buildings that may effect its ability to capture rain. Check your gauge each day and after recording what's there, discard any captured rain.

