

Make a weather vane

Category	Activities
Badge	Scientist
Advancement	Living with Nature
Time to allocate (mins)	15
Outcome	<p>This tool tells you which direction the wind is blowing <i>from</i>, which can indicate whether the weather is likely to get warmer, cooler, wetter, or dryer.</p>
Resources	Cup with lid
	Compass
	Marker
	Straws
	Masking tape
Instructions	Cardboard
	Scissors
	<p><i>Make the base:</i> Take a cup with a lid. Label the 4 cardinal directions on the lid (NESW). Insert one straw, and cover the top end of the straw with a piece of masking tape. <i>Make the top:</i> Take a second straw – cut slits in each end, and insert a cardstock flag in one end and an arrow in the other. Balance that straw on your finger to find the center of gravity. Push a pin through that point, then through the tape on top of the straw. Make sure it spins freely.</p> <p><u>To use:</u> Fill the cup with water, then put this outside in the wind, with the letter N on the cup in the north.</p>

Entry written by Sharon Venn of 1st Randburg