

WORKSHEET 4

Activity - Bottled Up Tornadoes

Print and copy this worksheet for use in the classroom.

In this activity you will make your own tornado in a bottle.



Equipment

- two 2 litre PET bottles with the labels removed
- water (you might like to add some colouring)
- paper towel
- flat, metal washer with the same circumference as the mouth of the bottles
- duct tape (alternatively, buy a ready made plastic bottle neck joiner, which can be purchased at Australian Geographic Shops at minimal cost)

Safety

PET bottles used by younger children should have their plastic rings removed

Procedure

1. Make sure that the plastic rings are removed from the necks of the bottles.
2. Half fill one bottle with water.
3. Dry the opening of the bottle with paper towel then place the washer over it.
4. Place the second bottle upside down on top of the washer.
5. Carefully secure the bottles together with tape.
6. Turn the bottles upside down so that the bottle containing the water is on top.
7. Observe what happens.
8. Now hold the lower bottle with one hand and the upper bottle with the other hand.
9. Support the lower bottle while quickly moving the top of the upper bottle in a clockwise direction.
10. Stand the bottles upright, with the empty bottle remaining underneath.

Questions

Answer the following questions in the spaces provided.

1. What did you expect to observe when the bottle containing water was placed above the empty bottle?

