



HANDS-ON EXPERIMENTS

WIND VANE



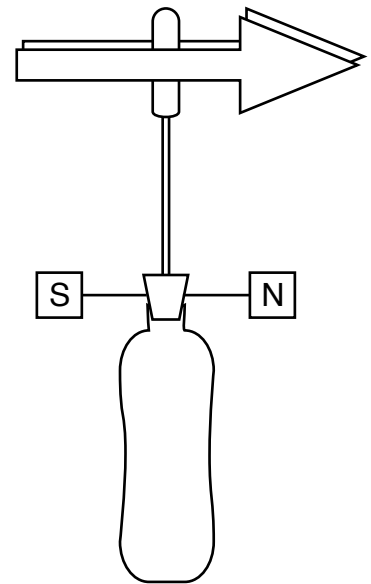
Weather vanes are used to detect which direction the wind is blowing in. They're very important for meteorologists as the direction the wind comes from has a big impact on the weather we can expect.

Wind currents carry around areas of high and low pressure, as well as weather systems like storms. Meteorologists also report this data to for aircraft and shipping.

Procedure

What you'll need: A 500ml bottle, sand (water will do fine if sand isn't available), rigid cardboard, a pen top, a knitting needle or similar, a cork, four cocktail sticks, blu-tack.

- Cut out two large arrows from the cardboard, both identical and about 30cm long. Glue the two arrows together with the pen top sandwiched between in the centre (as in the diagram).
- Push the four cocktail sticks into the cork at right angles to each other - these form your compass points so mark them N,E,S,W using card.
- Fill the bottle with sand to weigh it down.
- Push one end of the knitting needle into the cork and push the cork into the bottle. Attach the arrows by fitting the pen top over the end of the needle.
- Use a compass or map to align your weather vane.



Investigation

- Test your weather vane in a variety of locations - do the wind directions you find agree with other? Why? What would be the ideal location for the vane?
- Compare your results with official weather data to identify the most suitable location.

VIDEOS FOR THIS RESOURCE AT:

INTRODUCTION:



Clickable Link:

<https://youtu.be/KJHNgX1lhFQ>

CONCLUSION:



Clickable Link:

https://youtu.be/BwRBIHd_K2U

