OutputUnitywater

DIY Cyclone-in-a-Bottle

INSTRUCTIONS: Cyclones and storms only happen up in the sky, right? Not today! Follow the steps below to create a water cyclone you can hold in your very own hands. *Let's do it!*

What you need

- A recycled plastic bottle with a lid
- Dishwashing liquid
- Small pieces of coloured scrap paper
- Water

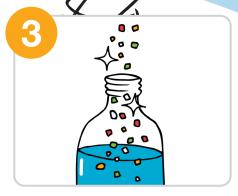
What to do



Fill your recycled bottle almost to the top with water.



Add a few drops of dishwashing liquid.



Add your coloured paper pieces to your bottle - like confetti!



Tightly screw the lid back onto the bottle. Spin your bottle around in small circles about five times.



You should see a mini cyclone start to form in your bottle, sucking the confetti from the bottom of the bottle to the top!



When you're finished, recycle your water by pouring it onto your houseplants or vegetable garden!



How it works

Cyclones are intense storms that form when water is sucked up from the ocean in places where warm and cool air meet. Cyclones then spin around because of the rotation of the earth. But that can't be happening in your bottle, can it? Not exactly - you've created what's called a 'vortex' in your bottle, which is a physics phenomenon that occurs when liquid moves in circles.



