Precipitation Experiment

This experiment will show you how precipitation works by making rain in a jar!

You will need:

1 Jar

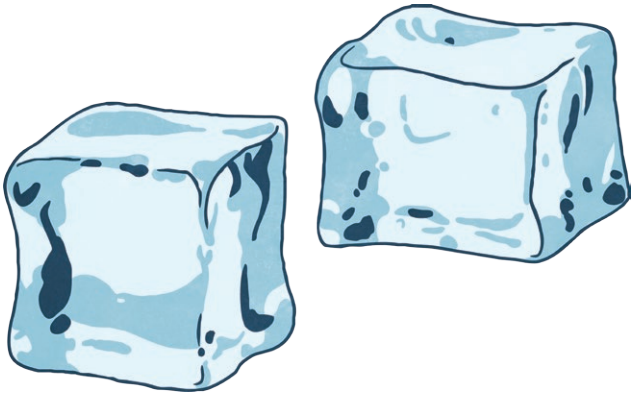
1 Plate

Hot water

Ice cubes

*Safety: To avoid the jar cracking when you pour in hot water, soak the jar in warm water for a few minutes before you begin.

Instructions



1. Boil some hot water.
2. Fill the jar about $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way up the jar.
3. Put a plate over the jar.
4. Wait approximately 2 minutes.
5. Place a few ice cubes on the plate.
6. Observe the rain in the jar!

Explanation:

Since we want to create water droplets or 'rain' in the jar, we need to first have a source of heat. The hot water mimics the water in lakes, rivers, etc. that is heated by the sun. When we place the plate on top of the jar, we are trapping the heat in the jar. As we know hot air rises, and rain happens when the hot and cold air meet; this is where the ice comes in. The cold air from the ice condenses the vapours and then forms the 'rain'!