

## AIR PRESSURE EXPERIMENTS

Where meteorological natural disasters are concerned, air pressure is often of critical importance. Yet the fact that air has actual weight and that it pushes against objects is difficult to imagine. These simple experiments can show you air pressure in action!

### Experiment No. 1

- **Fill a small cup one-quarter full of water.** Place an index card across the entire opening and carry the cup and index card to a sink. Hold the index card in place, turn the cup and card upside down, and let go of the index card.
- **What happens?** Why? What role does air pressure play in this experiment?

### Experiment No. 2

- **Place a ping-pong ball into the wide end of a funnel.** Tip your head back, bring the narrow end of the funnel to your mouth, and blow into it as hard as you can.
- **What happens?** What action is air pressure having on the ping-pong ball?

To investigate more, watch this YouTube video about air pressure and water. What can a balloon, water, and a plastic bottle teach us about the natural world?



air pressure  
fun science  
demos



### VOCAB LAB

Write down what you think each word means. What root words can you find to help you? What does the context of the word tell you?

**Coriolis effect, current, cyclone, equilibrium, hurricane, storm surge, and water vapor.**

Compare your definitions with those of your friends or classmates. Did you all come up with the same meanings? Turn to the text and glossary if you need help.