

Vaporisation:

What happens when you put a wet shirt out on the clothes line on a dry, windy day?

The shirt dries in the wind. Wind helps the water in the shirt to vaporise.

Puddles disappear from the road when the rain stops. Some of the water goes into the ground and some vaporises.

The wind gathers the vaporised water as it blows over the Atlantic Ocean.

The water remains in the form of clouds. When these clouds reach Ireland, this vaporised water falls and we have rain. The west coast of Ireland gets the most rainfall as it is closer to the Atlantic than the rest of the country.

Make a Rain Gauge!

Ask an adult to cut a plastic bottle in two pieces for you. Stick the piece with the mouth of the bottle to the mouth of a second bottle with strong tape. This is function as the opening of your rain gauge.

Pour a drop of oil into your gauge. When the rain enters your gauge it will go below the oil. The oil will act as a top layer and prevent vaporisation. Beginning at the surface level of the oil, measure one and a half centimetres with a ruler and make a clear mark on the bottle.

Leave your rain gauge outside. Measure how much rain fell after a day, a week, a fortnight etc. and keep a record of your findings in a diary!

1. What is the wettest coast in Ireland?
2. Why?
3. What is vaporisation?
4. What instrument can be used to measure rain?

VOCABULARY

Vaporisation

Rain Gauge

Measure

