

Pinecone Weather Station



PLANTING FIELDS

Education Center
Explore. Imagine. Design. Play.

Did you know you can tell the weather forecast by looking at a pinecone?

Go on a nature walk and collect at least one pinecone.

Place your pinecone outside.



Check on your pinecone each morning and record your observations.

Did you notice anything different about your pinecone on a rainy day compared to a dry, sunny day?

What is happening here?

Pinecones open and close depending on the humidity outside. Inside the pinecone, there are many light seeds. When the weather is dry the pinecone opens up, and if it is windy, the seeds can be dispersed! When it is about to rain, the humidity is very high. As a result, the pinecone will close up to avoid the light seeds from being waterlogged and damaged. Wet, heavy pinecone seeds will not travel as far as the light, dry seeds that can be carried long distances by the wind.

Pinecone Investigation:

My pinecone is _____ inches long and _____ inches wide.

My pinecone feels

_____ and is the color _____.

My pinecone is filled with seeds.

This is what one looks like:

