

PINE CONE

WEATHER STATION



You'll need

3 pine cones

String

A small bowl

Water



Instructions

Leave the pine cones indoors to dry and open up.

Hang one pine cone from a tree branch or place it on a windowsill outdoors.

Leave one pine cone on a windowsill indoors.

Place the third pine cone in a shallow bowl of water.

Observe how the pine cones change each day and record your observations.

Why do pine cones open and close?

Pine cones open and close in response to the moisture in the air.

When the weather is dry, pine cones open up to release the small, light seeds inside so they can be carried away from the parent tree.

When the weather is wet, they close up to protect the seeds.

When the pine cones are open, the weather is dry, and when they close the weather is wet.

Pine cones come from pine trees, but the cone like structure is present on most conifer trees.

PINE CONE WEATHER STATION



Record whether each pine cone is open or closed each day.

	Pine cone Inside	Pine cone Outside	Pine cone in Water
Day 1			
Day 2			
Day 3			
Day 4			
Day 5			

RESULTS

Notes

Mostly Open

Mostly Closed

Pine cone
Inside


☐
☐

Pine cone
Outside

☐

☐

Pine cone in
Water

☐
☐
