

Today in



we learned all about...

Under Pressure



- We learned that air pressure is created by the weight of Earth's atmosphere.
- Even though we do not feel it air pressure, it is around us all the time.
- We saw that when air is heated, the molecules spread out, and become lighter, which make it easier for them to rise.
- We learned about Bernoulli's principle, which states that faster moving air exerts lower pressure. We tested this principle by balancing a ping pong ball on the end of a straw in a column of air.
- We had an air pressure race using hair dryers and ping pong balls.
- We made Mad Science vortex generators which us the power of high and low air pressure to shot puffs of air.



LET'S TRY THIS AT HOME!



Amazing Air Pressure



You Need: One plastic cup, one 7.5 cm (3 inches) by 13 cm (5 inches) card and water.

- 1 Fill the plastic cup 3/4-full with water.
- 2 Wet the rim of the cup by dipping your finger in water and tracing the rim of the cup with your wet finger. Place the card firmly over the mouth of the cup.
- 3 Holding the cup over the sink, place your hand over the card. Press the card firmly on the cup, and then quickly turn the cup upside down.
- 4 While holding the cup upside down let go of the card and watch what happens.



Explanation: By making a seal between the cup and the card, air flow between the inside of the cup and the outside is stopped. Air pushes upwards on the card from underneath, keeping it and the water in place.

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