

Notes to the Future: Vortex

The vortex was a very simple project to tackle. Although it's not worth many points, it's easy and it takes little time to complete. The materials needed are very easy to obtain, too. We used a total of twelve bottles, (6 vortices), which consisted of two large ones, two mediums, and two smalls. The first one we made, a large vortex, was created with a washer in it as the connector between the two bottles, with the electrical and duct tape, but it leaked a good amount. So, for the next five, we purchased the tornado tube connectors, which we found on amazon.com, and they worked fine with very little leakage. Because the tornado tubes were meant to fit the bigger bottles, the little bottles had some leakage with them as well, even with the tape. It may be a hassle to purchase these, but if you plan ahead, it's worth it. To add some affect in the bottles, we put a different color of food coloring in each bottle, so you could see the vortex clearly, and the little kids loved it! Also, we added sparkles and little pieces of ripped up foil, to again see the vortex easily. If you put foil or sparkles in any of your bottles, make sure it isn't too much, because they will clog your connector between the bottles, and the water will not go through. Overall, this is a fun an easy experiment, and the kids really enjoy it! Good luck!