

2013

## **VORTEX NOTES TO THE FUTURE**

The vortex was a very fun yet simple experiment/project to tackle. We got to learn the physics and science behind both tornadoes and vortices and how they function on our planet and in models like this one. We used a total of 6-8 bottles which made about 3 to 4 vortices. The first time we made the vortex, we had to deal with a problem of leakage. We solved this problem by tightly taping the 2 two-liter bottles with duck tape. this minimized the leakage of the bottles a great deal. For the other that we made, we had the option of buying tornado/vortex connectors which can be found on Amazon.com. They easily screw on the bottles with minimal effort. The spiral effect that is created inside the bottles by the spinning water is indeed very interesting. The kids enjoy the effect very much. You can also make your vortices more interesting by adding sparkle and food coloring to the water, but make sure that the bits and pieces you add to your vortex can easily flow through the washer hole, otherwise your vortex will become clogged! Once again, as I stated, this project is very easy to do and it's really fun. I was very fascinated by the spiral effect myself. I believe that you too will really enjoy this project. To make it really easy on yourself, go buy some vortex connectors off line at Amazon.com for only a couple dollars each. They save you much time and effort, but they do leak a little so have some paper towels round. You can also push yourselves and try to make a bigger vortex using multiple gallon containers, just make sure your washer hole is big enough..... Good Luck and have fun!