

Storm in a Glass

What you need:

- Shaving cream
- Water
- A spoon
- A large glass
- Food colouring



Instructions:

- Fill the glass 1/2 full with water.
- Spray some shaving cream on top of the water to fill the glass to $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
- Use your finger or a spoon to spread the shaving cream evenly over the top of the water. The top of the shaving cream should be flat.
- Mix $\frac{1}{2}$ -cup water with 10 drops of food colouring in a separate container.
- Gently add the coloured water, spoonful by spoonful, to the top of the shaving cream. When it gets too heavy, watch it storm!

What happens and why:

Clouds in the sky hold on to water. They can hold millions of litres! The layer of shaving cream is our pretend cloud in this experiment. The shaving cream layer can also hold on to water. Clouds can't keep storing more and more water forever, eventually they get too heavy. When that happens, the water falls out (precipitates) as rain, snow, sleet or hail.

Extra Experiments:

Try more water and less shaving cream or less water and more shaving cream. Which one looks more like a drizzle, and which one looks like a downpour?