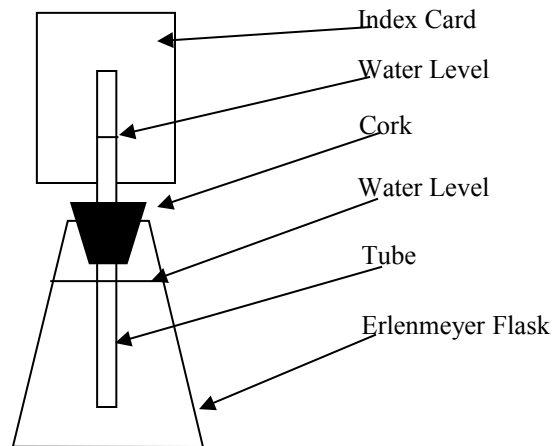


Homemade Thermometer

Materials:

Erlenmeyer Flask
Water
Food coloring
Clear drinking straw or tubing
Cork with a hole
Index card
Tape
Pen or pencil



Instructions:

Step 1: Fill a small Erlenmeyer Flask almost full of water (about four-fifths full). Color the water with a couple of drops of food coloring.

Step 2: Put a clear drinking straw or tubing through a cork and into the bottle so that the straw goes halfway down into the bottle. **Cork and tubing should form a tight seal!!!**

Step 3: Tape an index card to the straw. You will use the card as a scale. Make a mark on the card to show where the water level is.

Now move your thermometer to a warm place. Does the water rise? Mark the index card to show the new water level. Record the temperature.

Now move your thermometer to a cold place. Mark the index card to show the new water level. Record the temperature..

You can also compare it with the weather section of your local newspaper to see if your readings match the "official" temperature.