

# I think I Pan. I think I Pan.

## KIDS' ACTIVITY!

**DESERTS ARE SUPER DRY—BUT HOW DRY?**  
Scientists can measure dryness with pan evaporation and you can do it, too!



### WHAT YOU NEED: INSTRUCTIONS:

- A baking pan
- Water
- A timer
- A ruler

- Fill the baking pan with an inch of water.
- Place baking pan in a sunny location and time how long it takes for the water to evaporate. *Make sure there is not a drop left.*
- Write down the amount of time it took for the water to evaporate entirely in the sunny location. *Repeat in a shady location.*

### SUNNY LOCATION

### SHADY LOCATION

LENGTH OF TIME } }  
TO EVAPORATE \_\_\_\_\_

LENGTH OF TIME } }  
TO EVAPORATE \_\_\_\_\_

● *Did it take longer for the water to evaporate in the sunny or shady location? Why?*

● **CHALLENGE:** Try the pan evaporation experiment on a windy day. *What changes do you predict?*

● The amount of water the air is able to suck up can tell scientists how long water will stay in an area. *This is very important in riparian areas where plants and animals depend on the water to survive!*

