



## DIY THUNDER

Demonstrate the production of thunder.

### Materials

Paper lunch bag

### Results

The bag breaks and a loud noise is heard.

### Procedure

- Fill the bag with air by blowing into it.
- Twist the open end to trap the air inside.
- Holding it closed with your one hand, quickly hit the bag with your free hand. What happened?

### Why?

Hitting the bag causes the air to compress so quickly that the pressure breaks the bag. The air rushing out of the broken bag pushes the air outside the bag away. The air continues to move in a wave motion and a sound is heard when that air reaches your ear. Thunder is also a result of moving air. As lightning strikes, energy is given off that heats the air it passes through. This heated air quickly expands, producing energetic waves of air called thunder.

