



Smithsonian

Cooling Off



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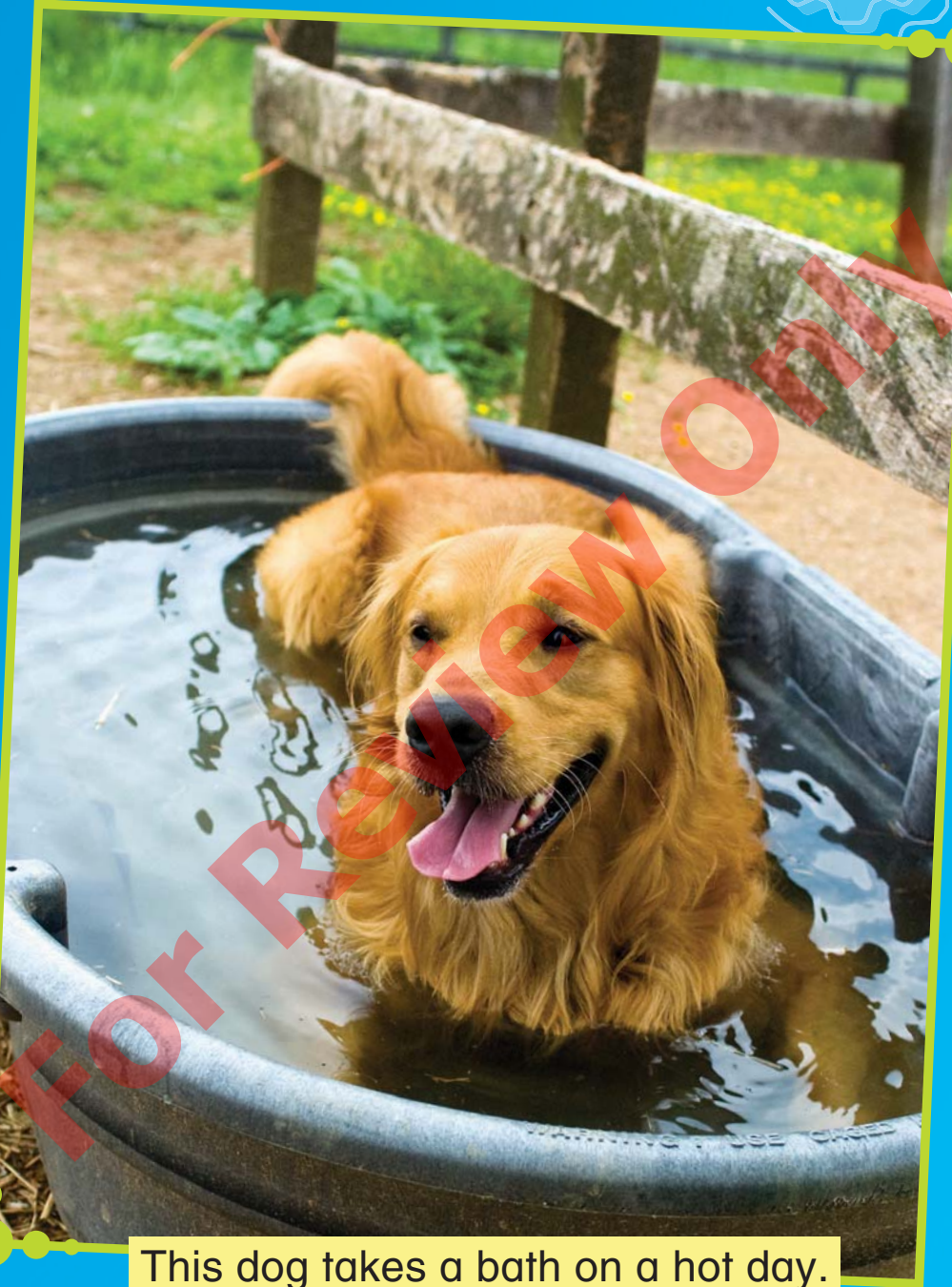
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Heating Up

The air is hot. Your clothes stick to your body. It is time to cool off!



A boy drinks cold water after a soccer game.



This dog takes a bath on a hot day.

Ways to Cool Down

What can people do to beat the heat? There are many good tricks for cooling off.



This girl plays with a pinwheel on a hot day.



The wind can cool people off.

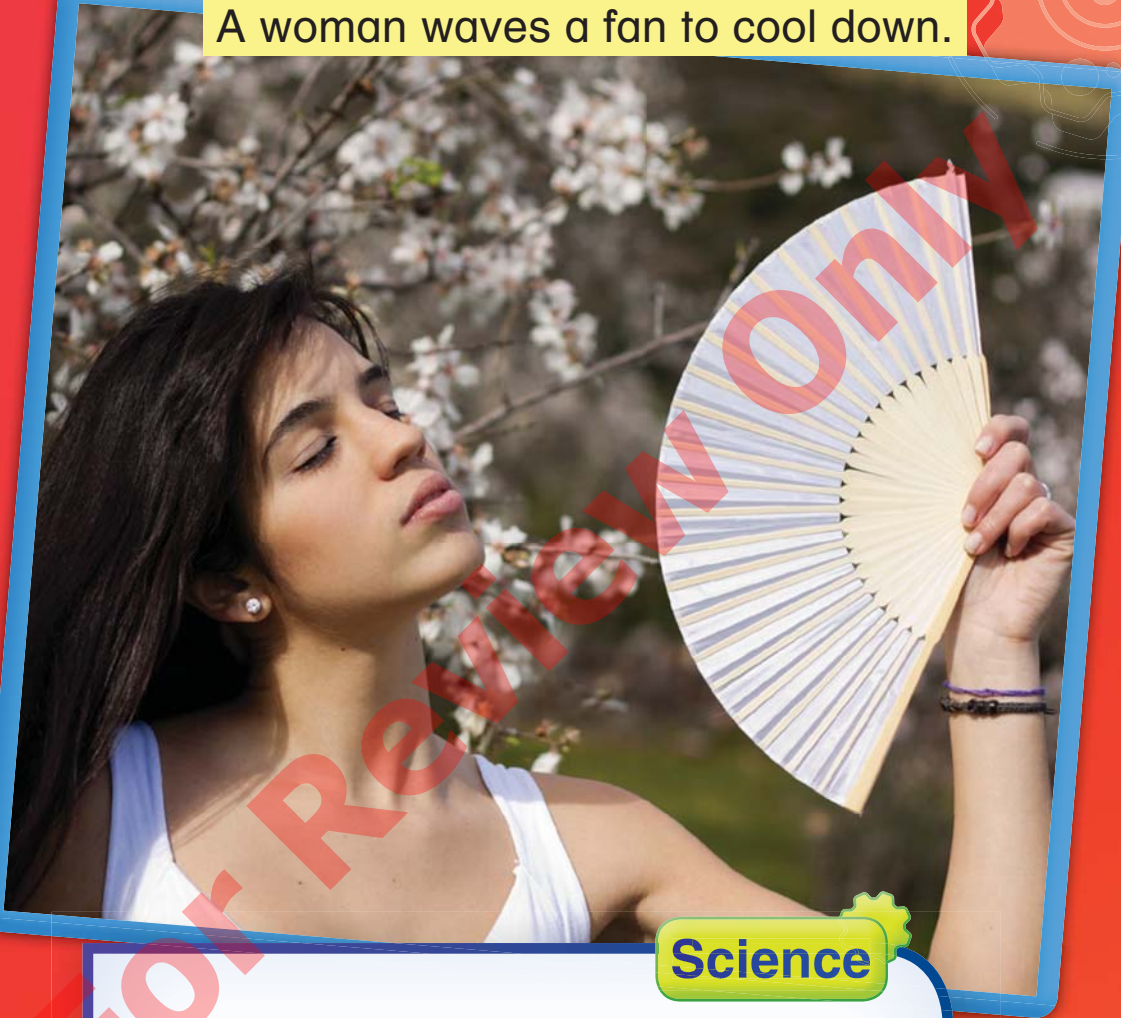
Fan It

Waving fans move air. The moving air dries people's sweat. It cools people off. **Electric** fans do the same thing.



This boy cools off in front of an electric fan.

A woman waves a fan to cool down.



Science

No Sweat!

People sweat when they are hot. Moving air **evaporates** the sweat. This cools people down.



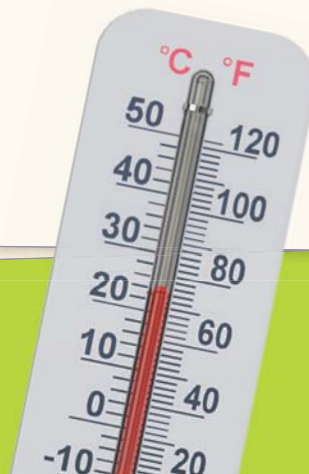
STEAM CHALLENGE

The Problem

It is hot! You need to cool off. But you do not have any of the usual things you use to keep cool. You will need to make something to help you cool down.

The Goals

- Your cooling device can be made with any materials you can find.
- Your cooling device must make you feel cooler.
- Your cooling device may not be a simple folded fan.





Research and Brainstorm

Why do people need to keep cool?
What do they use to cool off?



Design and Build

Draw your plan. How will it work?
What materials will you use? Build
your model!



Test and Improve

Try your device. Have a friend try it.
Do they feel cooler? Can you make it
better? Try again.



Reflect and Share

Can your device be used again and
again? Will other people like to use your
device too?