SCIENCE

The water cycle

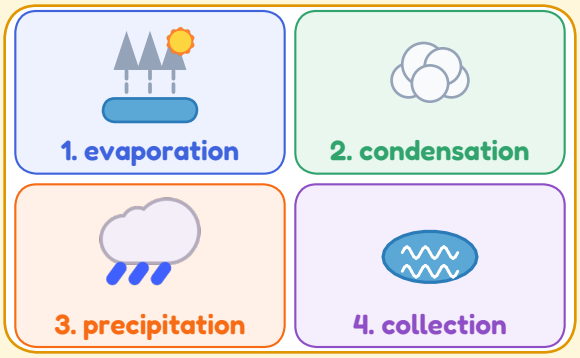


Name _____ Date _____

I can explain how water moves in the water cycle.

1 How it works

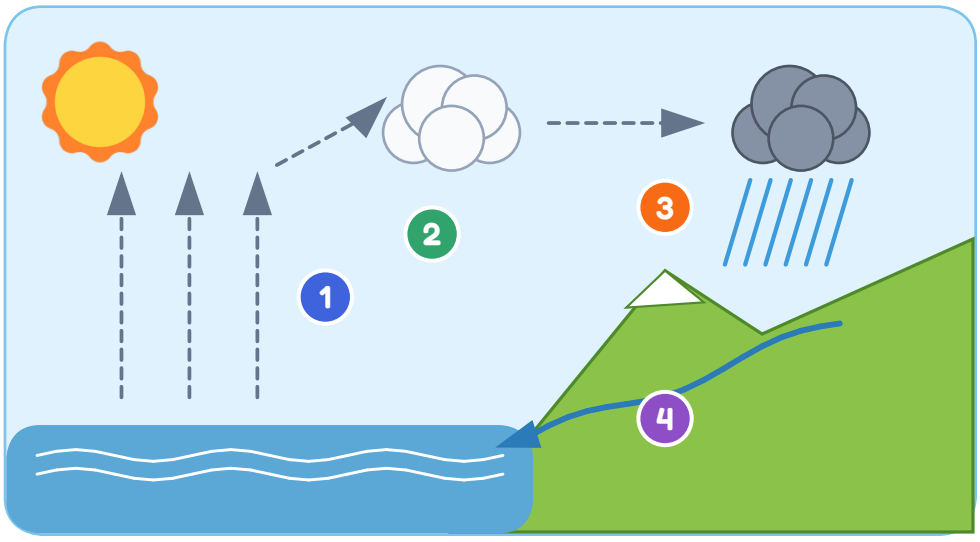
Water on Earth moves round and round in the water cycle. The sun warms water in oceans and lakes, and it rises into the air as water vapor: evaporation. High up, the vapor cools and forms clouds: condensation. When the drops get heavy, they fall as rain or snow: precipitation. Then the water collects again.



2 Label the water cycle

Use the words in the box.

evaporation | condensation | precipitation | collection



1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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SCIENCE · THE WATER CYCLE

Water on the move



Name _____ Date _____

I can match each step of the water cycle to what happens.

1 Draw a line from each step to what happens

evaporation	vapor cools and forms clouds
condensation	water warms up and rises as vapor
precipitation	rain, snow or hail falls
collection	water gathers in oceans, lakes and rivers

2 Solid, liquid or gas? Circle it.

an ice cube	solid	liquid	gas
raindrops	solid	liquid	gas
a snowflake	solid	liquid	gas
water vapor in the air	solid	liquid	gas

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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SCIENCE · THE WATER CYCLE

Think like a scientist



Name _____ Date _____

🎯 I can explain how water moves around and around.

1 Think about it ❓

1. Where does a puddle go on a sunny day? _____
2. Why do clouds get dark before rain? _____
3. Why is it called a cycle? _____
4. Name 3 places water collects. _____

2 True or false? Circle it. ✅

1. The sun heats water and makes it evaporate.	true	false
2. Precipitation means water going up into the air.	true	false
3. Clouds are made of tiny drops of water.	true	false
4. The water cycle never stops.	true	false
5. Snow is not part of the water cycle.	true	false

3 Draw the water cycle. Use arrows and label each step.

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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SCIENCE · THE WATER CYCLE

Try it: the water cycle in a bag

Name _____ Date _____

I can watch the water cycle in a bag.

1 You need

- a zip bag
- a little water
- blue food coloring
- tape
- a marker

2 What to do

1. Draw a sun, a cloud and waves on the bag with the marker.
2. Pour in a little water, add one drop of blue coloring and seal the bag tightly.
3. Tape the bag to a sunny window.
4. Look after 1 hour, 1 day and 2 days. Where do you see drops?

3 I predict

What will happen to the water in the bag?

4 What I see

Time	Draw it	What changed?
1 hour		
1 day		
2 days		

How did I do? ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

Answer key: the water cycle

1 Page 1

Labels: 1) evaporation; 2) condensation; 3) precipitation; 4) collection.

2 Page 2

Steps: 1) evaporation: water warms up and rises as vapor; 2) condensation: vapor cools and forms clouds; 3) precipitation: rain, snow or hail falls; 4) collection: water gathers in oceans, lakes and rivers.

States: 1) an ice cube: solid; 2) raindrops: liquid; 3) a snowflake: solid; 4) water vapor in the air: gas.

3 Page 3

Think: 1) It evaporates into the air; 2) They fill with heavy water drops; 3) The water goes round and round; 4) Oceans, lakes, rivers or puddles.

True or false: 1) true; 2) false; 3) true; 4) true; 5) false.

Drawing: evaporation, condensation, precipitation and collection, with arrows going round.

4 Page 4: Try it!

The sun warms the water and some of it evaporates. The vapor touches the cooler plastic near the top and condenses into tiny drops, like a cloud. When the drops get big, they run down the side like rain and collect at the bottom again. The bag shows the whole water cycle.

5 Teaching tip 💡

Act out the water cycle: children crouch as water in the sea, rise slowly as the sun warms them, huddle together as a cloud, then rain back down. Say the four step names as you move.

Safety: seal the bag well and tape it firmly so it does not fall and leak.

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