



UNIT #4 – READING SECTION

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Water Cycle Wonders

When you drink a glass of fresh water, your water is very old! In fact, the same water has been traveling around Earth since before King Tut. The water cycle is the process of how water moves around the planet. There are four main phases. In each phase, water can be liquid, solid (ice), or gas (vapor). Let's learn more!

Evaporation: When the sun heats Earth's surface water, that water becomes water vapor or steam. The vapor rises into the air and changes from liquid to gas. Evaporation can take place at any temperature.

Condensation: Some vapor comes back down to us as rain. How does vapor become liquid? It condenses! As evaporated water rises into the atmosphere, it becomes cold and forms water droplets. Millions of droplets then form clouds.

Precipitation: When clouds become heavy with condensed water, the atmosphere can no longer hold the water. It then falls back to Earth in the form of rain, snow, or ice, depending on the temperature.

Collection: When precipitation lands on Earth, it moves in different ways. Some water moves across the land (*runoff*), but some water soaks into the earth (*infiltration*) and moves underground. Water collects in many places—even glaciers—and eventually evaporates again. Wherever it lands, water keeps moving!

2 Read and look. Label the three photos.

1.

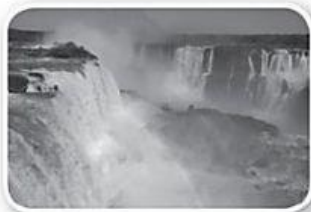


precipitation

2.



3.



4.





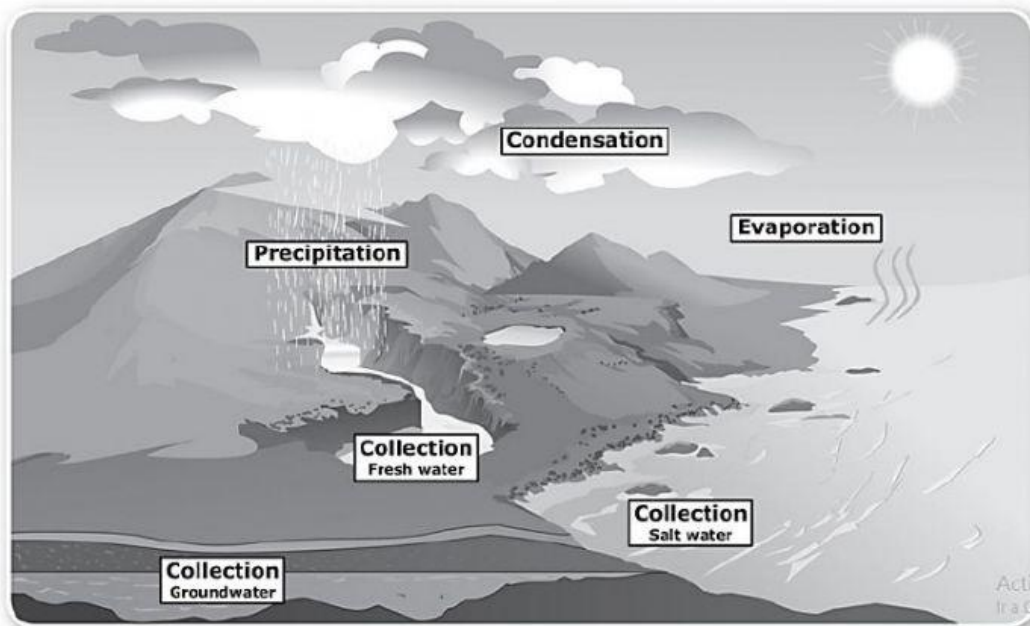
3 Read and write.

gas liquid(s) solid(s)

1. Water vapor is a kind of gas. As it rises, it gets colder.
2. Frozen water on glaciers and ice are two kinds of _____.
3. Groundwater and runoff are two kinds of _____ water.
4. Evaporation is the process during which liquid water changes to a _____.
5. Condensation is the process during which a gas changes to a _____.
6. Precipitation is the process during which water returns to Earth as a _____ or a liquid.

Activar W

- 4 **Write.** Write notes in your notebook. Explain the four stages of the water cycle. Use the diagram to help you. Then discuss with a partner.



Activar Wind
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