

The Water Cycle

Water is always moving around our planet. This is called the **Water Cycle**.

First, the **sun heats** rivers, lakes, and oceans. The water changes into water vapor and goes up into the sky. This step is called **evaporation**.

Next, the water vapor cools down and forms tiny drops of water. These drops make **clouds**. This step is called **condensation**.

When the clouds become heavy, water falls back to the Earth as **rain, snow, or hail**. This step is called **precipitation**.

Finally, the water collects in rivers, lakes, oceans, and on the ground. This step is called **collection**.

Then, the sun heats the water again, and the water cycle starts over. The Water Cycle gives us fresh water and helps plants, animals, and people live.

Multiple Choice: choose the best answer

1. What heats the water?

- A. The Moon
- **B. The Sun** ✓
- C. The Wind
- D. The Clouds

2. What is evaporation?

- A. Water falls as rain.
- **B. Water changes into water vapor.** ✓
- C. Water freezes.
- D. Water stays in the ocean.

3. Where do clouds form?

- A. In rivers
- B. In lakes
- **C. In the sky** ✓
- D. On mountains

4. What happens after precipitation?

- A. Evaporation
- **B. Collection** ✓
- C. Condensation
- D. Freezing

True or False: choose true or false for the following statements

1. The sun helps start the Water Cycle.

☒ True ☐ False

2. Clouds are made during evaporation.

☐ True ☒ False

3. Water collects in rivers, lakes, and oceans.

☒ True ☐ False

Matching: Match the stage with its meaning.

Stage

Evaporation

Condensation

Precipitation

Meaning

Water changes into water vapor. ✓

Clouds form. ✓

Rain, snow, or hail falls to Earth. ✓