

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.