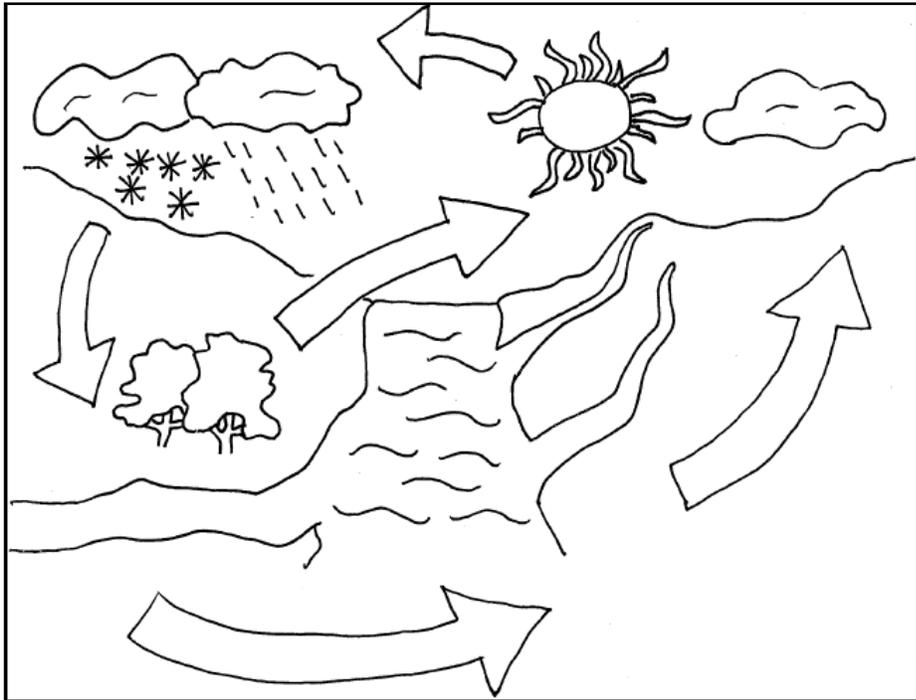


# Water Wonder



**Key Groups:**  
Families,  
School groups  
(ages 5-7)

**Subject:** The  
Water Cycle

**Duration:**  
Preparation: 15  
minutes  
Activity: 20  
minutes

**Abilities:**  
crafts

**Materials:**  
rectangular  
Tupperware  
container

**Vocabulary:**  
solid, liquid,  
gas, vapor,  
evaporation,  
condensation,  
precipitation,  
transpiration,  
groundwater,  
runoff,  
collection

## Background:

The water cycle describes the movement of water on, in, and above the Earth. The world's water never stops moving and never stops changing states (solid, liquid, and gas). In fact, for billions of years life on Earth has depended on this process. This cycle has no beginning and no end; however, as most of Earth's water is found in the oceans, we'll start there.

The sun, which drives the water cycle, causes the

water to warm up and as it evaporates it becomes a gas which enters the air. Water also evaporates from other places in the world including lakes, rivers, plants, streams, and the soil. The gaseous water, or water vapor, continues to rise up into the sky until cooler temperatures cause it to condense and form clouds.

Air currents push cloud particles around the Earth, until they collide, become

bigger and bigger, and fall back down to Earth as precipitation (rain, snow, or hail). The majority of the water goes back into the ocean or on to the land, where it flows over the ground or sinks into the soil.

### **Method:**

Draw the children's attention to different parts of their surroundings, including the trees, soil, sky, and any animals or birds that may be around.

Ask:

*“Where does rain come from? How does it get into clouds?”*

### Activity # 1:

To introduce the water cycle, read the attached story. While the kids listen, they can color the diagram of the water cycle. They may also do the word search and crossword puzzle to solidify and test their knowledge.

### Activity # 2:

Construct a mini model of the landscape in the Tupperware container for kids to observe. Include mountains, trees, rocks, streams, and lakes. For materials you can use: soil, sticks, leaves, pebbles, or anything else their creative minds can come up

with. Older kids can help you with specific parts of the model. When the model is finished, pour in some water at one end of the container where the “lake” is to be. Then put the lid on the container and then wait and watch as the water evaporates, condenses on the sides and lid of the container, and then falls back down to the model environment.

### **Assessment:**

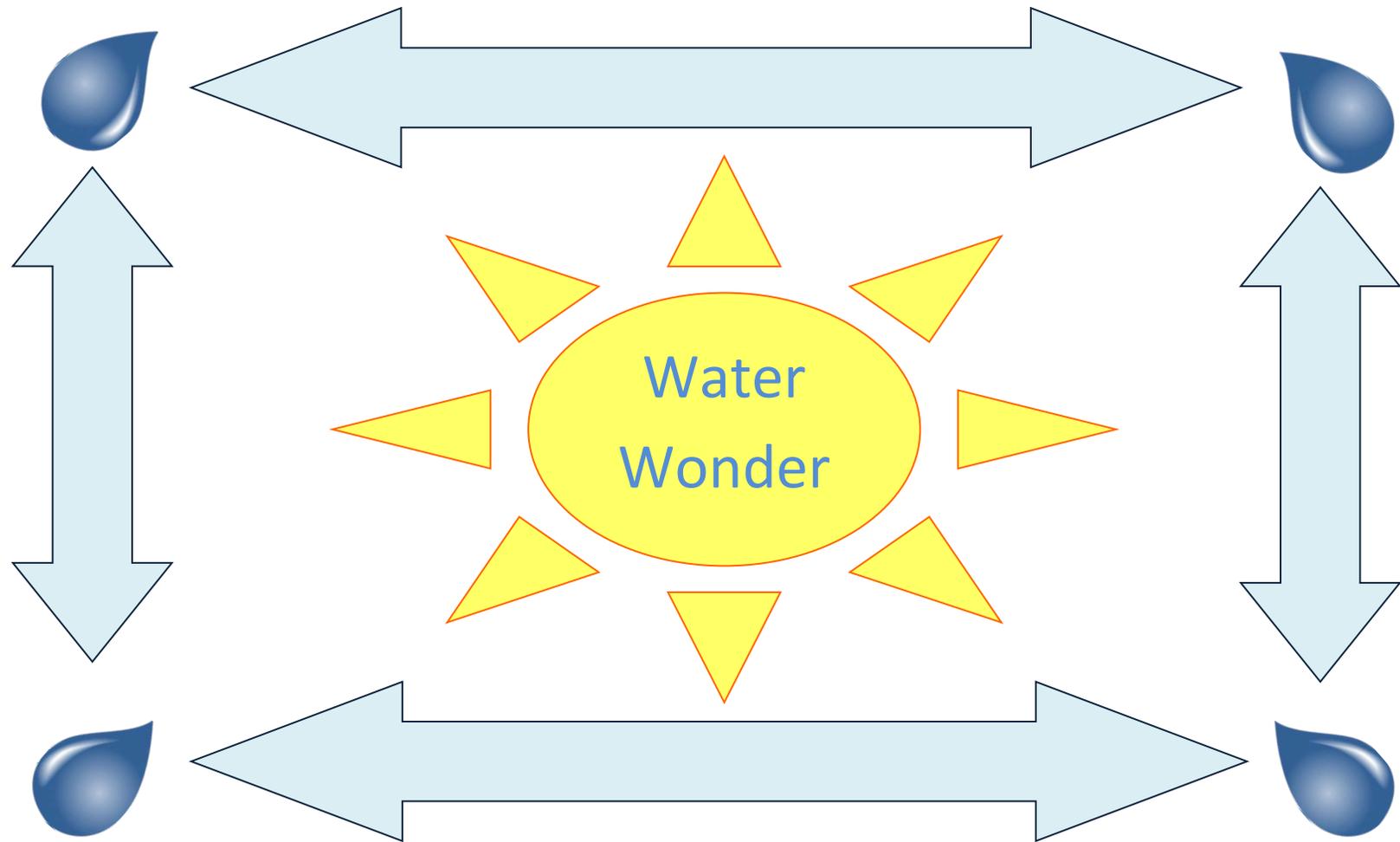
Kids should be asked where the water is and where it is going in the Tupperware. Identify the different stages in the water cycle.

### **Further Learning:**

The kids can reenact the water cycle story. Roles can include a water droplet, clouds, streams, rivers, lakes, oceans, forests, glaciers, etc.

### **Works Cited**

Perlman, H. (2013, May 23). *Summary of the Water Cycle*. Retrieved June 25, 2013, from The USGS Water Science School: <http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/watercyclesummary.html>



The Adventure of Dewy, the Water Droplet



Once upon a time, in an ocean far, far away from here, there lived a tiny droplet of water named Dewy. Every day he and the other droplets of water would gaze up at the big blue sky and take turns imagining what the clouds looked like. Some seemed like small butterflies floating lazily in the air, while others looked like enormous ships sailing boldly to the ends of the Earth. Dewy enjoyed this game very much, and was happy to play it for the rest of his life.

Then one day, it rained. Many droplets of water from faraway lands fell down from the large gray clouds and came to join Dewy and his friends in the ocean. There were so many droplets of water—so many new friends with exciting stories to tell! Some droplets told of going to great frozen chunks of ice called glaciers. Others said they had been to woody forests where the trees grew so high, no one could see the tops.



All of his new friends' stories excited Dewy and made him wish he could see all of the strange places for himself. The only problem was he didn't know how to get to the clouds. They seemed so far away!

"How did you go to the clouds?" he asked one of his new droplet friends one day.

"Why, I became a gas and traveled up into the sky," his friend replied.

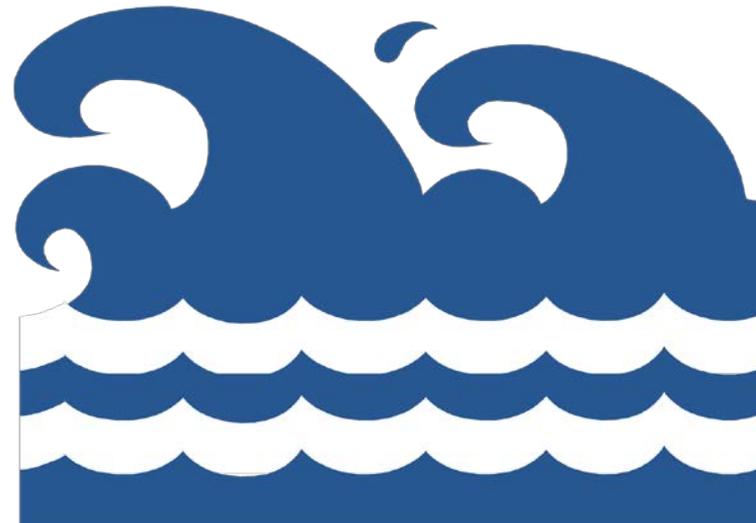
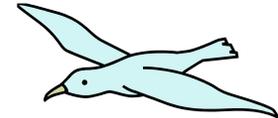
"What?" said Dewy, feeling very confused. "Could I do it? Could I reach the clouds?"

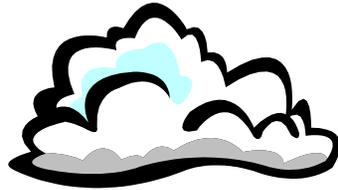
"Of course you can," his friend answered pleasantly. "Just go lie out under the sun and wait."

Dewy was amazed. It seemed too simple to be true, but he decided to give it a try.

Doing as his friend had told him, Dewy lay on his back beneath the sun and waited . . . and waited . . . and waited . . . but nothing happened. He wondered if perhaps he had forgotten something. Then it happened!

He suddenly felt very warm all over. Soon, he grew hotter and hotter, until finally he began to rise in the air. Dewy couldn't believe it. He was on his way to the clouds!





He rose higher and higher into the sky, coming closer and closer to the white, fluffy clouds. It seemed like such a long time, but at last, he reached the clouds with all the other droplets of water.

*This is so exciting!* he thought to himself. *But how do I get to all those wonderful places my friends talked about?*

Just as Dewy was trying to think of a way to go to all the places he wanted to, he began to feel himself getting colder. At first he was scared. What was happening to him?!

“Oh, don’t worry,” said one of his friends. “You are just turning into a cloud with the rest of us. We’re helping to make the cloud become bigger.”

Relieved nothing was wrong with him; Dewy settled down and waited to see what would happen next. After a while, he felt a strong wind begin to blow him and his friends away from the ocean.



“Hey! Where are we going?!” he asked one of his friends.

“We’re going around the world,” his friend explained eagerly. “We’re going to see all kinds of places. Just look down there.”

Curiously, Dewy looked down at the world below him. His eyes grew wide with wonder.



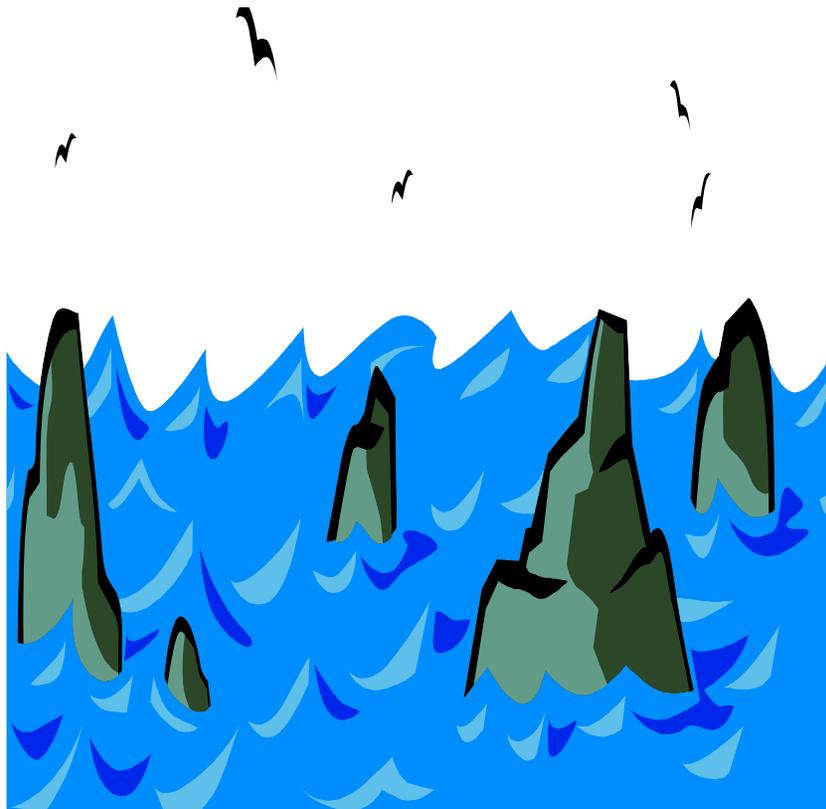
He saw enormous white glaciers glittering in the sunshine, all of them standing proud above the snowy land and foamy ocean below. As the cloud kept going, he saw dark green forests, all of the branches blowing in the wind. As the day went by, he even got to see places his friends hadn't seen, like busy cities, leafy jungles, and dry deserts. He was so happy he never wanted to go home!

Then the end of the day came and Dewy realized he missed his old friends. He wished he could go back to the ocean and see them again, but didn't know how.

Just as he was about to ask one of his friends how to go back down again, he felt himself suddenly drop through the clouds. Air rushed passed him as he fell down from the sky.

"What's happening?!" he called out in fear.





“You’re rain now,” one of the other droplets explained. “You’re going back home.”

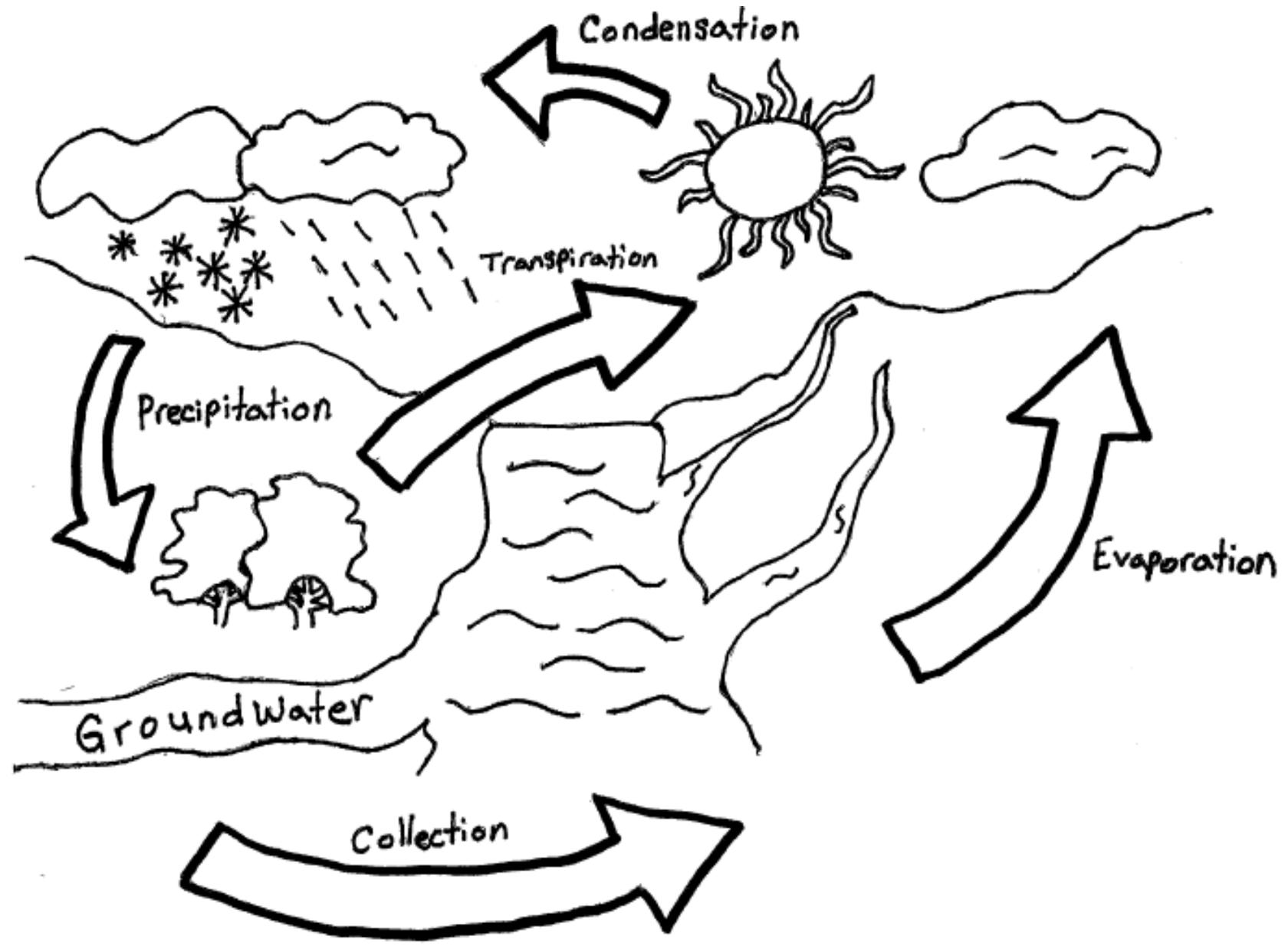
Dewy couldn’t believe his luck. He was so happy, he started waving and shouting to his old friends bellow him.

“Hey guys, I’m back! I’m back! You won’t believe all of the amazing places I’ve been to!”

With a small splash, Dewy entered the ocean water and all of his friends gathered around him, eager to hear about all the adventures he had had. Dewy gladly shared all that had happened to him that day with all of his friends.

When night came, Dewy looked up at the sparkling stars and dreamed about all the places he had gone to. He had enjoyed the day very much and loved all the neat places he had seen. Someday soon, he would visit all of the places again.

# The Water Cycle

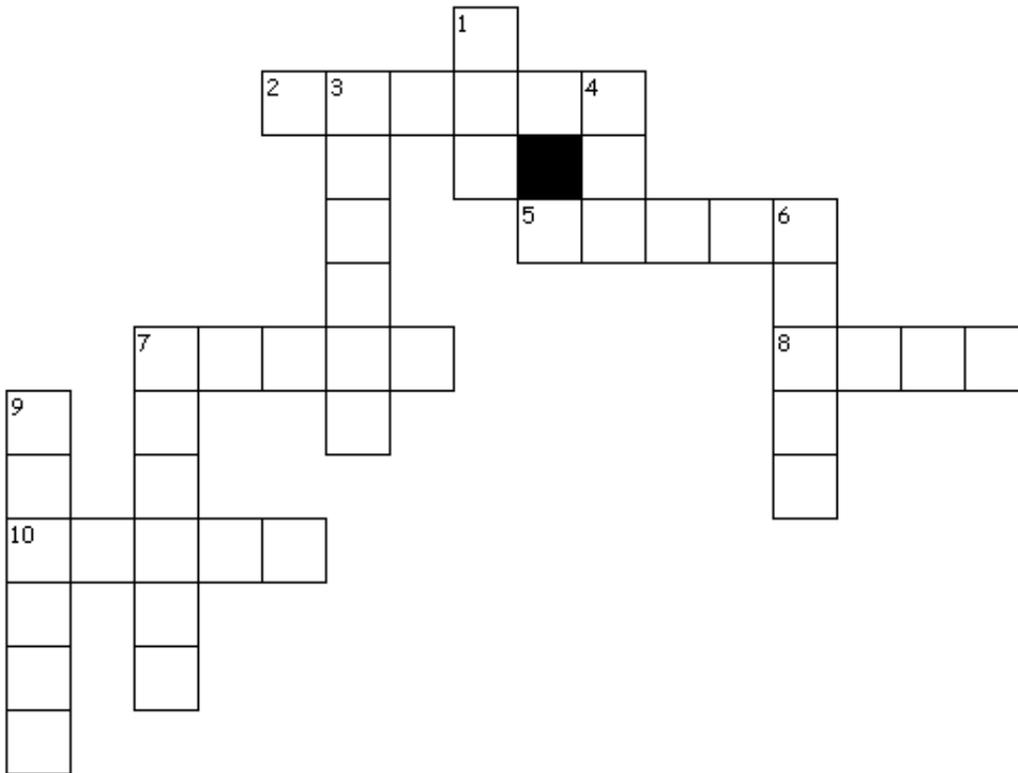


# The Water Cycle

L V M Q J S L N O B  
A G H M D S E C L C  
L I Q U I D E K E U  
L K O B S A T N A M  
D L A P N T C A R L  
C J T G V H R B T D  
E V F W M H N E H X  
S S X Y C E Z A A I  
A Y K S C N L C N M  
G S U N Y D I L O S

CLOUDS EARTH GAS LAKE LIQUID  
OCEAN SKY SOLID STREAM SUN

## The Water Cycle



**Across**

- 2. What water becomes when it evaporates into the sky.
- 5. The movement of water is a continuous \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7. What water becomes when it is hail or ice.
- 8. Water can fall back to Earth as this.
- 10. Where most of the world's water is found.

**Down**

- 1. What makes the water cycle possible?
- 3. What water is when it is able to flow.
- 4. Where the water goes when it evaporates.
- 6. Where the water falls back to.
- 7. A small channel of water.
- 9. Water can soak into this and collect.

**Solid, rain, cycle, Earth, ground, sun, stream, sky, clouds, liquid, ocean**