

The Water Cycle



Activities

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These activities can be used to enhance or reinforce concepts and vocabulary words learned in the Water Cycle lessons found at extension.usu.edu/waterquality.

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Read the following story to your students and then have them use clues from the story to construct a water cycle diagram.

Drip's Journey

One day a water droplet named Drip was swimming lazily in the ocean.



As the sun rose, he began to feel warm and noticed he was floating up toward the sky. His friend Drop looked at him and said, “Yeah! We are evaporating!” They rose high up into the sky. “What a great view,” he thought.

Soon, he began to get cold. “Hey Drop,” he shouted, “Why is it getting so cold?” “We are condensing,” said Drop, “Soon we will form a cloud.”

The cloud grew heavy as many drips and drops came together. They began to fall to the earth as precipitation. “Precipitation is water falling to the earth in the form of rain, snow, hail, or sleet,” Drop explained.

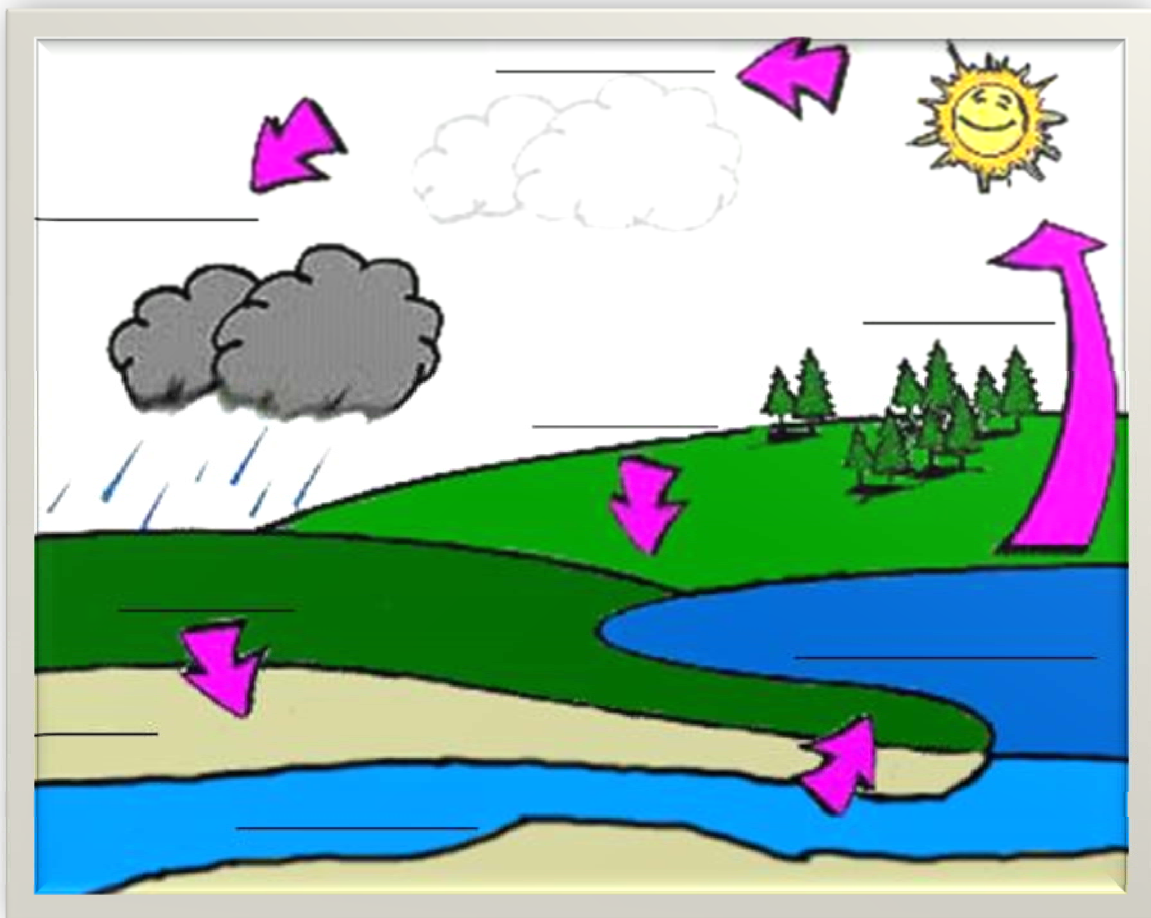
It was Drip's turn to fall. SPLAT! He landed in a stream. Some of his friends infiltrated into the ground and became groundwater. Others fell on concrete and stayed in puddles until the sun came out and evaporated them again. Some even became runoff, flowing downhill over the surface of the earth directly to a stream.

Soon, Drip was moving slower, and everything was salty. “It seems like I have been here before,” Drip thought. “Of course you have,” said a familiar voice. It was Drop! “We are always traveling through the water cycle, and now we are back in the ocean. It could be a while before we evaporate again, but when we do, it will be a great adventure!”



After reading about Drip's journey through the water cycle, fill out the places he went and the things he did in the picture using the words below.

Precipitation Condensation Evaporation
Infiltration Runoff Lakes & Streams Groundwater





Water Cycle Word Search

Find and circle all the hidden words in this word search. Words can be diagonal, up, down, and even backwards.

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

City
Concrete
Condensation
Drain
Evaporation
Groundwater
Infiltration
Ocean
Pavement

Pollution
Puddle
River
Runoff
Stormwater
Streams
Sun
Watershed



Water Cycle Song

[G] My sister had a house with a nice big lawn
 She [A] waters her lawn every day at dawn
 The [D7] water, it seems to disappear in [G] seconds.
 The water soaks in, as it should
 It [A] makes her lawn look nice and good.
 [D7] What happened to my sister's [G] water?

(Infiltrate)

(Chorus)
 Did it-
 [C] Evaporate, infiltrate,
 [G] Precipitate, condensate,
 [D] Runoff, streams,
 What do you know?
 [C] Where did my ----- [G] go?

My daddy had a house up on a hill
 He climbed that hill and he lives there still
 But he could never get his crops to grow
 The water you see runs over the ground
 The bottom of the hill is where it is found
 What happened to my daddy's water?

(Runoff)

Chorus

My brother used to dream that he could fly
 He would fly so high way up in the sky
 He noticed that the clouds were made of water
 He saw that they soon formed a drop
 They go bigger and they wouldn't stop
 What happened to my brother's water?

(Condensate)

Chorus

My mom used to swim in a lake so blue
 It was the biggest lake I ever knew
 But over the years the water began to disappear
 The sun would shine on the lake each day
 Taking that water all away
 What happened to my mother's water?

(Evaporate)

Chorus

Well I had a little doggie and my oh my
One day some water hit him right in the eye
He couldn't understand how the water came from up above
The drops came down and hit the ground
My poor scared doggie ran all around
What happened to my doggie's water?

(Precipitate)

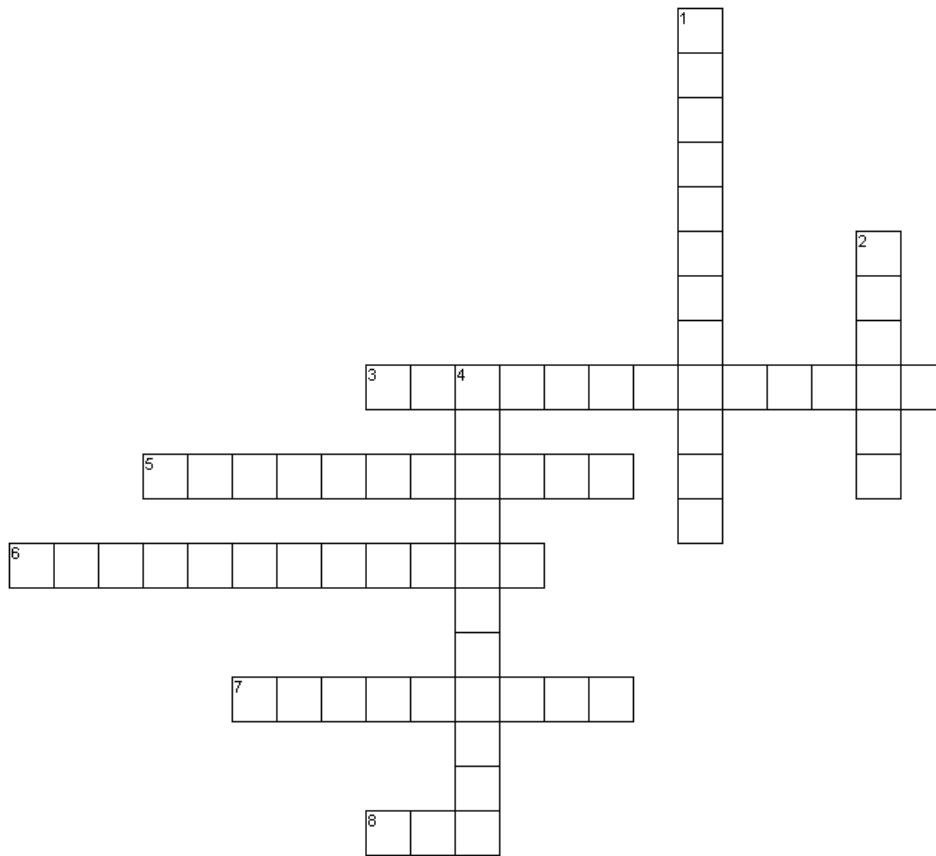
Chorus

Well, my sister's water, my daddy's water, my doggie's water too
The day they got together it seemed they grew
When they came together they were set in motion
On their way down to the ocean
What happened to my family's water?

(Stream)

Chorus

Water Cycle Cross Word



Can you fill in the puzzle using the clues below?

Across:

- 3. Rain, snow, sleet, or hail
- 5. Water that is found under the ground
- 6. When water seeps down into the soil
- 7. Something that gets into the water that isn't supposed to be there
- 8. This causes the water to heat up and evaporate

Down:

- 1. When a gas turns to a liquid
- 2. Water that doesn't soak into the ground
- 4. When a liquid turns to a gas