

The Wonderful Water Cycle with Nova the Owl

Learning objective: To identify and describe the stages of the water cycle, including evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of how water moves around our planet. Nova the Owl wants you to master these scientific terms!

What is the name of the process when the Sun warms up water in rivers and seas, turning it into invisible gas?

Evaporation

What do we call the gas form of water that rises up into the air?

Water vapour

What happens when water vapour cools down high in the sky and turns back into tiny liquid water droplets to form clouds?

Condensation

What is the scientific term for water falling from clouds to the ground as rain, snow, sleet, or hail?

Precipitation

What is the stage where water gathers in oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams after falling to the ground?

Collection

What provides the energy needed to heat the water and start the water cycle?

The Sun

True or False: The water cycle has a beginning and an end point.

False. It is a continuous cycle that repeats over and over.

Where does most of the water on Earth collect?

In the oceans

If a puddle disappears on a sunny day, which process is taking place?

Evaporation

What do we call the layer of air surrounding the Earth where clouds form?

The atmosphere

Does the total amount of water on Earth change during the water cycle?

No, it just changes state and location.

Why are clouds important in the water cycle?

They store water droplets until they become too heavy and fall as precipitation.