

Nova's Water Cycle Discovery Flashcards

Learning objective: To understand the key stages of the water cycle: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of how water moves around our planet. Nova the owl wants to see if you can master these science terms!

What is Evaporation? The process where the sun warms up water in rivers, lakes, or oceans and turns it into water vapour (a gas) that rises into the air.	What is Condensation? The process where water vapour in the air cools down and turns back into tiny liquid water droplets, forming clouds.
Define Precipitation. When water droplets in clouds become too heavy and fall back to the Earth as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.	What is Collection? When water that has fallen as precipitation gathers in oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams, or soaks into the ground.
What is Transpiration? The process where plants release water vapour from their leaves into the atmosphere.	What is Water Vapour? Water in its gas form. It is invisible and rises into the air after evaporation.
What provides the energy to keep the water cycle moving? The Sun.	Is the water cycle a repeating process? Yes, it is a continuous, circular process that has no beginning or end.
Where is most of the Earth's water collected? In the oceans.	What happens to temperature during condensation? The temperature decreases (it gets cooler).
Does water ever leave the Earth? No, the total amount of water on Earth stays mostly the same; it just changes state and location.	Name three forms of precipitation. Rain, snow, and hail (or sleet).