

Nova's Journey Through the Water Cycle

Follow the flow of the raindrop: Explore how Earth recycles its most precious resource!

- **Evaporation** occurs when the Sun's thermal energy warms liquid water in oceans and lakes, turning it into an invisible gas called water vapour.
- As water vapour rises into the cooler atmosphere, it undergoes **condensation**, transforming back into tiny liquid droplets to form clouds.
- When cloud particles collide and grow heavy enough, gravity pulls them to Earth as **precipitation**, which can fall as rain, snow, or hail.
- **Transpiration** is a special process where plants release water vapour from their leaves into the air, contributing to the cycle.
- **Collection** happens when precipitation gathers in rivers, lakes, and oceans, ready to begin the cycle of evaporation all over again.

Did you know? Did you know? The water you drink today is the same water that dinosaurs drank millions of years ago! Because the Earth is a closed system, it constantly recycles the same finite supply of water through the atmosphere and the ground.

Key vocabulary: Evaporation · Condensation · Precipitation · Transpiration · Collection · Water Vapour