

Nova's Water Cycle Expedition

Learning objective: To describe and explain the key processes of the water cycle, including evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.

Nova the barn owl has been tracking a raindrop's journey through the sky. Below is a jumbled sequence of events in the water cycle. Reorder the steps from 1 to 6 to show the correct path a water droplet takes, starting from the ocean. Then, use the word bank to fill in the missing scientific terms in the descriptions.

Word bank: evaporation · condensation · precipitation · transpiration · collection · vapour

1. 1. The sun warms the surface of the ocean, turning liquid water into invisible water _____. (Process: _____) (2 marks)

2. 2. Plants also release water from their leaves into the air through a process called _____. (1 mark)

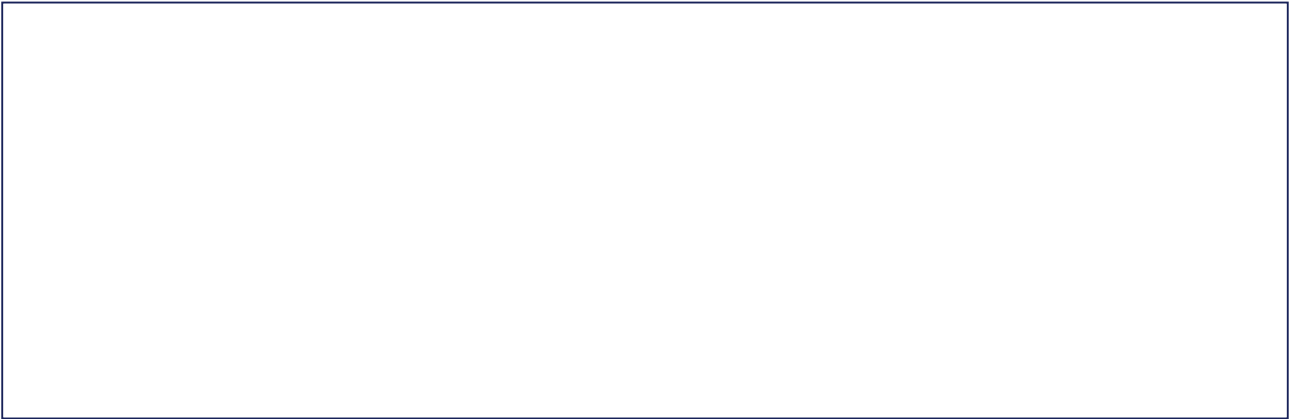
3. 3. High in the sky, the air cools down, turning the water back into tiny liquid droplets. This forms clouds through _____. (1 mark)

4. 4. When the clouds become too heavy, water falls back to Earth as _____ (rain, snow, or hail). (1 mark)

5. 5. The water gathers in rivers, lakes, and oceans. This stage is known as _____. (1 mark)

6. 6. Explain why the sun is the most important part of the water cycle. Use the word 'energy' in your answer. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a diagram of the water cycle showing the sun, a mountain with a river, a cloud, and the sea. Label your diagram with arrows to show the direction the water travels.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are a water droplet. Write a short diary entry (50-80 words) describing your journey as you change state from the sea up to a cloud and back down to the ground again.