Nova’s Water Cycle Discovery Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify and describe the key 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. Look at the term on the front, try to define it, then check the answer on the back.

What is Evaporation?

The process where the Sun warms up water in rivers, lakes, and oceans, turning it from a liquid into a gas called water vapour.

What is Condensation?

The process where water vapour in the air cools down and turns back into liquid water droplets, forming clouds.

What is Precipitation?

When water droplets in clouds become too heavy, they fall back to the Earth's surface as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.

What is Transpiration?

The process where plants release water vapour into the atmosphere through tiny pores in their leaves.

What is Collection?

The stage where water gathers in oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams after falling as precipitation.

What provides the energy to drive the water cycle?

The Sun provides the heat energy required for evaporation to occur.

True or False: The water cycle has a definite starting point and ending point.

False. It is a continuous, circular process that repeats over and over.

What is Water Vapour?

Water in its gaseous state, which is invisible to the human eye.

How does temperature affect evaporation?

Higher temperatures provide more energy, causing water to evaporate more quickly.

What role do clouds play in the water cycle?

Clouds act as a storage place for condensed water droplets before they are released as precipitation.