

Nova's Guide to the Wonderful Water Cycle

Follow the Flow: From the Clouds to the Sea and Back Again!

- **Evaporation:** Heat from the sun warms up the water in our oceans and lakes, turning it into an invisible gas called water vapour which rises into the sky.
- **Transpiration:** Plants are busy too! They release water vapour from their leaves into the air, which adds even more moisture to the atmosphere.
- **Condensation:** As the water vapour rises, it cools down and turns back into tiny liquid water droplets, which gather together to form clouds.
- **Precipitation:** When the clouds get too heavy with water droplets, the water falls back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.
- **Collection:** Water gathers in rivers, lakes, and oceans, or soaks into the ground as groundwater, ready to start the journey all over again.

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

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