

Caroline Haslett Primary School - Geography

Spring Term

Year 4

The Water Cycle

Prior Knowledge

The sun is a spinning ball of hot, glowing gas that provides heat and light to all the planets in the solar system, including Earth.

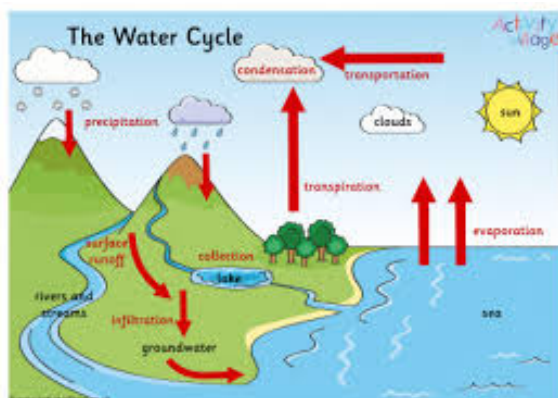
Rain and snow are formed in clouds.

New Knowledge

The water cycle is the cycle of water between the earth's oceans, sky and land.

Nearly three-quarters of the Earth's surface is covered in water.

The total amount of water on Earth and in the atmosphere stays roughly the same. The water just moves from place to place and changes state.



Vocabulary

- **Atmosphere** - the whole mass of air surrounding the earth.
- **Condensation** - when a gas cools and turns into a liquid.
- **Cycle** - a series of events that happen again and again regularly and usually lead back to the starting point.
- **Evaporation** - when a liquid is heated up and turns into a gas.
- **Infiltration** - when water soaks into the ground.
- **Precipitation** - water that falls to the earth as hail, mist, rain, sleet, or snow.
- **State** (of matter) - a solid, liquid or gas.
- **Surface runoff** - when water flows over ground to rivers, lakes and the sea.
- **Transpiration** - the loss of water from a plant's leaves.
- **Water vapour** - the name for water when it is a gas.

Activities

- Research the water cycle.
- Create a visual representation of the water cycle.

Skills and National Curriculum Objectives

- Describe and understand key aspects of physical geography, including ...the water cycle.