

The Water Cycle Explained

Hey Daniella and Alisia! Let's talk about the water cycle, which is a super cool process that moves water around our planet!

Step 1: Evaporation

It all starts when the sun shines down on lakes, rivers, and oceans. The heat from the sun warms up the water and turns it into water vapor, kind of like steam. This process is called **evaporation**. It's like when you boil water, and the steam rises into the air!

Step 2: Condensation

As the water vapor rises, it cools down and changes back into tiny water droplets. This is called **condensation**. You can see this when you breathe out on a cold day, and your breath looks like little clouds. Those tiny droplets come together to form clouds in the sky!

Step 3: Precipitation

Once the clouds get heavy with lots of water droplets, they can't hold it anymore. So, the water falls back to the ground as **precipitation**. This can happen as rain, snow, sleet, or hail, depending on the temperature. It's like the clouds are giving water back to the Earth!

Step 4: Collection

After the precipitation falls, the water collects in rivers, lakes, and oceans. Some of it also soaks into the ground and helps plants grow. This is called **collection**. When the water is in these places, the cycle can start all over again!

So, the water cycle is like a circle of water moving from the ground into the sky and back down again – it never really stops! Remember, it's all powered by the sun's heat. Isn't that amazing? Now you both know how the water cycle works!