Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a clear understanding of the water cycle, including its stages: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection. The student will also be able to explain how these stages interact with each other in nature.

Materials and Prep

- Paper and pencil for notes and drawings
- Access to a window to observe weather conditions
- A clear plastic container (like a jar or bowl) for a mini water cycle experiment
- Water for the experiment
- Sunlight or a lamp for heating (if indoors)

Before the lesson, ensure that the student understands basic weather concepts and can identify different types of weather conditions from the window.

Activities

- **Water Cycle Drawing:**

  The student will create a detailed drawing of the water cycle, labeling each stage (evaporation, condensation, precipitation, collection). This will help reinforce their understanding of the cycle's components.

- **Mini Water Cycle Experiment:**

  Using the clear plastic container, the student will add water and place it in sunlight or under a lamp. They will observe how the water evaporates, condenses on the lid, and eventually "rains" back down into the container, simulating the water cycle.

- **Weather Observation Journal:**

  The student will keep a journal for a week, noting daily weather conditions and how they relate to the water cycle (e.g., sunny days may lead to evaporation, while rainy days show precipitation).

Talking Points

- "The water cycle is a continuous process that describes how water moves on, above, and below the surface of the Earth."
- "Evaporation is when the sun heats up water in rivers, lakes, and oceans, turning it into vapor or steam."
- "Condensation happens when water vapor cools down and turns back into liquid, forming clouds."
- "Precipitation is when water falls from clouds in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail."
- "Collection refers to water gathering in bodies like rivers, lakes, and oceans, where the cycle begins again."
- "The water cycle is essential for maintaining life on Earth, as it distributes fresh water to

ecosystems and humans."