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# **God's Wonderful Water Cycle Adventure**

#### **Materials Needed:**

- A clear glass jar (like a large pickle or mason jar)
- A ceramic or metal plate that can cover the top of the jar
- Hot water (hot tap water works well; adult supervision required)
- Ice cubes
- Hairspray (a quick, small puff is all you need)

## Lesson Plan (Approx. 15 Minutes)

### 1. The Great Water Mystery (2 minutes)

- **Teacher:** "Have you ever looked at a puddle after it rains and wondered where the water goes? Or have you ever wondered how clouds get up so high in the sky? It seems like magic, but it's actually a wonderful plan that God created called the Water Cycle."
- **Teacher:** "God designed water to be a super traveler! It goes on a big, round-trip journey to make sure all the plants, animals, and people have the fresh water they need to live. Let's see if we can see a part of that journey right here in a jar!"

### 2. Activity: Make a Cloud in a Jar! (6 minutes)

This part demonstrates Evaporation and Condensation in a very visual way.

- 1. **(Adult Task)** Pour about two inches of hot water into the clear glass jar. Gently swirl it to warm the sides of the glass.
- Teacher: "The warmth is like the sun warming up a lake or an ocean. The water is starting to turn into a special kind of air called 'water vapor.' This first step is called **EVAPORATION**. The water is floating up!"
- 3. **(Adult Task)** Quickly take the lid off, give one very short puff of hairspray into the jar, and immediately cover the top of the jar with the plate.
- 4. **Teacher:** "That little puff of hairspray is like the tiny bits of dust in the air. The water vapor needs something to hold on to!"
- 5. (Student Task) Carefully place 3-4 ice cubes on top of the plate.
- 6. **Watch and Wonder:** Now, watch the inside of the jar closely! You will see a cloud begin to form.
- 7. **Teacher:** "Look! When the warm water vapor rose up, it hit the cold plate. The cold air made the vapor turn back into tiny water droplets, and they all huddled together to make a cloud! This is called **CONDENSATION**. Isn't that amazing? God designed it so that when water gets high and cold in the sky, it knows to stick together to form clouds."

#### 3. Activity: Be the Rain! (3 minutes)

This part helps the student understand the cycle through fun, physical movement.

- **Teacher:** "Okay, now let's be the water cycle! Everybody crouch down small like a puddle of water."
- **EVAPORATION:** "The sun is coming out! It's getting warm! Stand up slowly and wiggle your fingers as you reach for the sky. You're evaporating into the air!"
- CONDENSATION: "Now you're high in the sky! It's chilly up here! Let's huddle together and

make one big cloud." (Give the student a gentle hug or have them hug themselves).

- **PRECIPITATION:** "Our cloud is getting so full and heavy with water! We can't hold it anymore! Now, let's fall back down to earth as rain!" (Wiggle fingers and slowly lower back down to the ground). "Pitter-patter, pitter-patter! This part is called **PRECIPITATION**."
- Do this fun cycle 2-3 times.

#### 4. A Wise and Loving Plan (4 minutes)

- **Teacher:** "Wasn't that a fun journey? God made this amazing cycle to take care of His world. Why do you think it's important that rain falls from the sky?" (Listen to the student's ideas).
- **Teacher:** "That's right! It gives thirsty flowers a drink, it fills up the rivers for the fish, and it gives us the water we need to drink and play in. God's plan is so wise because the sun cleans the water as it evaporates, and then the clouds carry it all over the world, like a giant watering can for the whole earth!"
- **Teacher:** "This shows us how much God loves us and everything He made. He didn't just make water; He made a perfect plan for it so that life on Earth can flourish. It's a beautiful gift that works all day, every day."

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