

The water cycle

Ever wondered where your water comes from? There is the same amount of water on the planet now as there was when the earth began, this is because Earth's water recycles itself. The water cycle is also known as the 'hydrological cycle'. The water cycle includes 4 stages: precipitation, infiltration, evaporation and condensation. The cycle happens because of the heat from the sun and the pull of gravity.

The water cycle- How does it work?

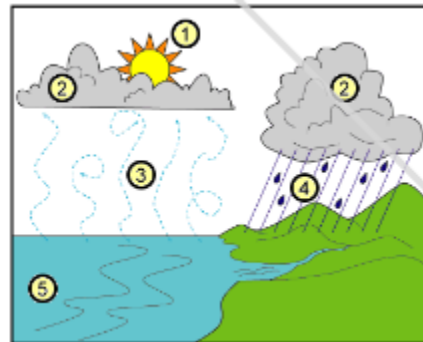
- 1.) First, molecules from lakes, rivers, streams and the sea get heated up by the sun and turn into vapour, which rises into the air.
- 2.) Next, these molecules turn into clouds, this is a process called condensation.
- 3.) When the air is full of water, it cools and forms droplets of water, which fall to the earth as rain, hail or snow. This is called precipitation.
- 4.) When it falls to the ground it flows into lakes and rivers, or it is absorbed by the ground. This is called infiltration.

Did you know?

The water in your bottle may have fallen from a cloud just a week ago! Although... it could also have been inside a toilet!

Why is water important?

Many of us think water will be there when we need it. Without it, all living things would die. A human cannot survive more than a week without water, therefore it is the most important thing on the planet!



Find 3 examples of scientific language

Write out one fact

Why has the author underlined some words?

Why has the author included a 'Did you know' box?

What is the purpose of the subheadings?

Why is some of the information numbered?

Challenge: describe how an explanation text is different to instructions.