

# The Water Cycle

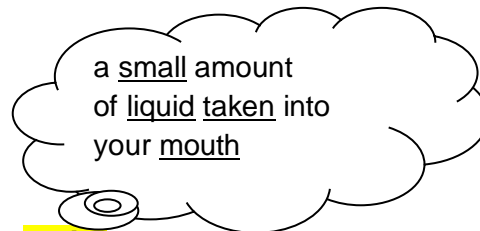
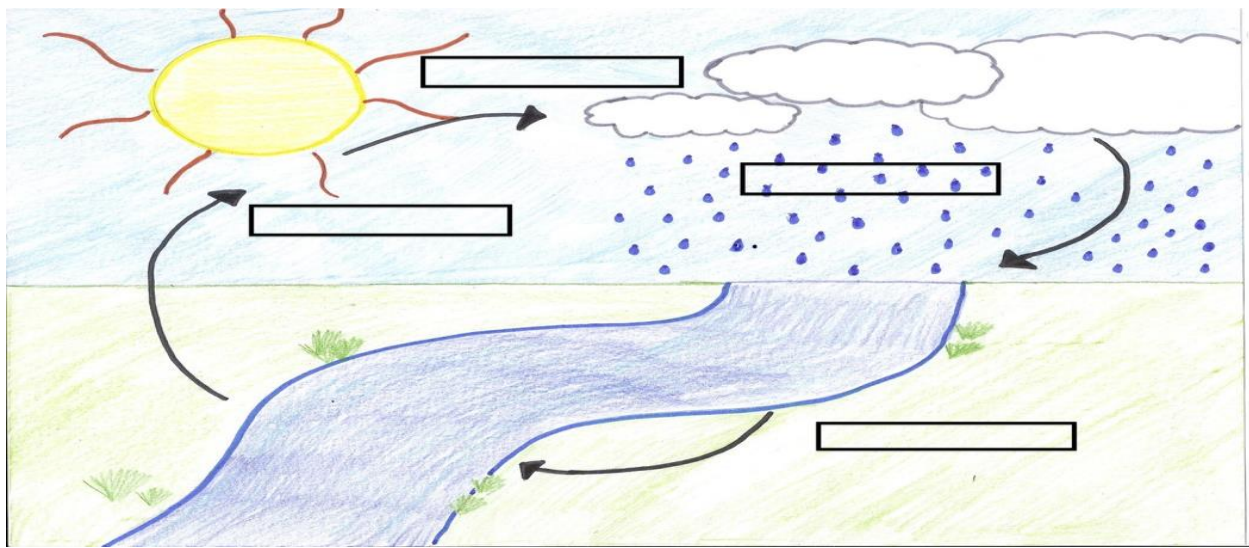


**Task 1. You are probably aware that everything we use, wear, buy and eat on a daily basis needs water to be produced. However, did you know that it takes more than 2000 litres to make a single hamburger and more than 15.000 litres for a steak? Do you know what is a water footprint? Have you ever heard about it? If you are curious to find out, read the fragment below!**

"The water footprint measures the amount of water used to produce each of the goods and services we use. It can be measured for a single process, such as growing rice, for a product, such as a pair of jeans, for the fuel we put in our car, or for an entire multi-national company. The water footprint can also tell us how much water is being consumed by a particular country – or globally – in a specific river basin". (**Source:** <https://waterfootprint.org/en/water-footprint/what-is-water-footprint/>).

**Task 2. What is your own water footprint? Use the Water Footprint Calculator [tps://www.watercalculator.org/](https://www.watercalculator.org/) to find out how much water do you use to have your food, electricity and other products.**

**Task 3. Read the following text and use the information to fill in the diagram:**



Pour yourself a glass of water and take **a sip**. Did you know that the water you've just swallowed is the same water that woolly mammoths, King Tutankhamen and the first humans drank? That's because Earth has been recycling water for over 4 billion years! The world's water moves between lakes, rivers, oceans, the atmosphere and the land in an ongoing cycle called – you guessed it! – the water cycle. As it goes through this continuous system, it can be a liquid (water), a gas (vapour) or a solid (ice). So, are all you budding young geographers ready to learn some splashing new facts? Let's have a look at different stages of the wonderful water cycle...

### **Evaporation**

Energy from the sun heats up the surface of the Earth, causing the temperature of the water in our rivers, lakes and oceans to rise. When this happens, some of the water "evaporates" into the air, turning into a gas called "vapour". Plants and trees also lose water to the atmosphere through their leaves. This process is known as "transpiration".

### **Condensation**

As water vapour rises up high into the sky, it cools and turns back into a liquid, forming clouds. This process is called "condensation". Currents high up in the air move these clouds around the globe. The water cycle is also known as the "*hydrologic cycle*".

**Adapted from** <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/science/nature>.

### **Precipitation**

When too much water has condensed, the water droplets in the clouds become too big and heavy for the air to hold them. And so they fall back down to Earth as rain, snow, hail or sleet, a process known as "precipitation".

### **Collection**

The fallen precipitation is then "collected" in bodies of water – such as rivers, lakes and oceans – from where it will eventually evaporate back into the air, beginning the cycle all over again. *How* it is collected, depends on where it lands...Some will fall directly into lakes, rivers or the sea, from where it will evaporate and begin the cycle all over again.

Water that reaches land directly may flow across the ground and collect in the oceans, rivers or lakes. This water is called “surface run-off”. Some of the precipitation will instead soak (or “infiltrate”) into the soil, from where it will slowly move through the ground until eventually reaching a river or the ocean.  
 And there you have it, gang – the ongoing water cycle!

**Source:** <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/science/nature>.



**Task 4. Pretend you are... language detectives! Your mission is to scan the text and try to identify words from the text to match the explanations and fill in the table. You have one example below:**

Explanation	Word/ phrases from the text
a small amount of liquid taken into your mouth	a sip
rain that freezes in the sky and falls to the ground as small balls of ice	
a mixture of snow and rain	
a very small drop of liquid	
a liquid goes into the surface or substance that it touches, so that you can no longer see it	
to make food or drink go from your mouth down through your throat and into your stomach	
the number 4,000,000,000	

**Task 5. Complete the following sentence using information from the text.**

As water vapour rises up high into the sky, it cools and turns back into\_\_\_\_\_.

When too much water has condensed, the water droplets in the clouds become \_\_\_\_\_.

The fallen precipitation is then “collected” in \_\_\_\_\_.

**Task 6. Read the following sentences and circle T(True) or F(false), justifying your choice with pieces of information from the text.**

- a. The process in which a gas changes into a liquid, usually when it becomes cooler is called evaporation. T/F

Evidence from the text: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. The water you've just swallowed is the same water that wooly mammoths, King Tutankhamun and the first humans drank. T/F

Evidence from the text: \_\_\_\_\_

**Task 7. Match the water phrases and sayings with their correct meaning. You have one example:**

A	B	Example:
0. A fish out of water	a. To be in a dangerous, vulnerable, or troublesome situation or position, especially that which could be beyond one's abilities to resolve	0 c
1. To be in deep water	b. Used to refer to events or situations in the past that are no longer to be regarded as important or a source of concern.	
2. It is raining cats and dogs	c. One who does not feel comfortable in a new environment.	
3. Be water under the bridge	d. A saying about a person who seems to be quiet or shy may surprise you by knowing a lot or having deep feelings.	
4. Don't wash your clothes in public	e. To spend money excessively or wastefully	
5. Still waters run deep	f. Family ties are closer than other relationships.	
6. Spend money like water	g. Don't tell private things to people that you may not be able to trust.	
7. Blood is thicker than	h. Rain very heavily.	



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**Task 10. Find evidence of water pollution from your area and create a short video documentary (2-5 minutes) exposing the main problems, as well as your action plan and solutions to stop pollution!**

What smart solutions can you design to save water?