

THE WATER CYCLE

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The water cycle describes the continuous movement of water on, above and below the surface of the Earth.



Evaporation – Heat or wind turns water into vapour in the air

Transpiration – Water vapour is released by plants and soil into the air

Condensation – Water vapour gathers into liquid droplets in the air, creating clouds and fog

Precipitation – Water vapour in the air condenses into rain or snow and falls to the Earth

Infiltration – Water on the ground surface sinks into the soil

Runoff – The variety of ways water moves along the ground

Subsurface Flow – The flow of water underground, that eventually drains into oceans or bubbles up via springs