

**ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION:**

Students will be able to understand the movement of water within the water cycle. They will also identify the states of water as it moves through the water cycle and what state moves the fastest.

**MATERIALS**

9 signs  
9 die  
9 discs with picture of a station  
2 foot stakes and rope  
Large game board

**Make sure you have all items  
before the students arrive!**

**BEGIN THE ACTIVITY****What will I be doing?**

You will be talking to the kids to explain the water cycle and the states of water. You will discuss who uses the water, why each state is useful and how one drop of water can travel around the world. You will lead them in a game that shows how fast or slow water moves in its various states.

*Where do we find water in nature?*

Listen to the answers and make sure to include the nine examples in the game.

(Groundwater, Plants, Soils, Clouds, Rivers, Glaciers, Animals, Lakes and Oceans).

*What are the three states of water?*

Wait for answers.

Solid – ice - glaciers

Liquid – water - lakes, rivers, ocean, groundwater

Gas – vapour - clouds

*Who can explain the water cycle?*

**Evaporation**

The water evaporates from the lakes and oceans.

**Condensation**

The evaporation turns into clouds, as a gas (vapor) it can travel through the atmosphere over the Earth's surface and end up somewhere else.

**Precipitation**

The clouds collect water and it comes down as rain, running across the Earth's surface to a body of water or it percolates down through the soil to the groundwater where it will travel underground. This process can take years.

*Does the water cycle happen at the same speed in a tropical forest as it does in the Arctic?*

Evaporation happens more quickly in the rainforest because evaporation needs heat.

A drop of water can do the whole water cycle in one day in the rainforest. In the Arctic it could take decades.

**Explain each station has a specific dice that goes with that station.**

Hand out a disc with a picture on it. If there are more than nine students make up teams.

Now they are going to go to the station and wait for the signal.



When the signal is given, roll the dice, put the dice next to the sign where it belongs and then follow the instructions. If the dice says stay then stay at the same station.

Wait for the next signal to roll the next dice. **REMINDE STUDENTS TO COUNT HOW MANY TIMES THEY MOVED.**

Gather the students together again.

*Who moved more than four times?*

*Who didn't move at all?*

*Who can guess which station didn't move?*

Glaciers have no heat from the sun to cause evaporation.

*What are the three states of water?*

Solid, liquid and gas.

*Is the water cycle happening right here, right now?*

Yes.

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### WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

*Not to take water for granted and not to waste water! It can be used for more important things!*

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Updated Jan. 9, 2009

