

Water Cycle Notes

1. Water vapor comes from the earth's _____, like oceans, rivers, and lakes.
2. Water from these sources _____, changing from a liquid to a gas.
3. Higher up in the atmosphere, gaseous water cools down and _____ into clouds.
4. When water _____ in clouds collect into big enough drops, they fall on us as rain. Or as snow, sleet, or hail, depending on the _____.
5. Water is constantly _____ from land to air and back again, this process is known as the water _____.
6. Scientists study it because water's such an important part of the _____. Every living thing on the planet depends on a supply of clean water!
7. There's a fixed amount of water cycling around, over, and inside our planet! All that water is known as the _____.
8. The sun is the heart that pumps water around the hydrosphere. Its heat _____ breaks the bonds between water molecules, causing them to evaporate from oceans, lakes, rivers...even plants!
9. Water returns to the earth through _____, also known as rain, snow, sleet, and hail.

10. Sometimes, water flows across the surface of the earth as something called _____ . _____ adds to the flow of streams and rivers!
11. Or water can soak into the ground, in a process called _____ .
Water that's infiltrated the ground is called _____. It can stay
beneath the surface anywhere from a few days to thousands of years!
12. The water cycle's been going on for _____ of years, circulating the same
supply of water over and over and over again.
13. the amount of water on the earth's surface stays perfectly _____ all
the time! It's kind of like a big, beautiful machine!

Water Cycle Notes Answer Sheet

1. Water vapor comes from the earth's **surface water**, like oceans, rivers, and lakes.
2. Water from these sources **evaporates**, changing from a liquid to a gas.
3. Higher up in the atmosphere, gaseous water cools down and **condenses** into clouds.
4. When water **Molecules** in clouds collect into big enough drops, they fall on us as rain. Or as snow, sleet, or hail, depending on the **Temperature**.
5. Water is constantly **cycling** from land to air and back again, this process is known as the water **cycle**.
6. Scientists study it because water's such an important part of the **Ecosystem**.
Every living thing on the planet depends on a supply of clean water!
7. There's a fixed amount of water cycling around, over, and inside our planet! All that water is known as the **Hydrosphere**.
8. The sun is the heart that pumps water around the hydrosphere. Its heat **energy** breaks the bonds between water molecules, causing them to evaporate from oceans, lakes, rivers...even plants!
9. You're right, water returns to the earth through **precipitation**, also known as rain, snow, sleet, and hail.
10. Sometimes, water flows across the surface of the earth as something called **runoff**. **Runoff** adds to the flow of streams and rivers!

11. Or water can soak into the ground, in a process called **infiltration**. Water that's infiltrated the ground is called **groundwater**. It can stay beneath the surface anywhere from a few days to thousands of years!
12. The water cycle's been going on for **billions** of years, circulating the same supply of water over and over and over again.
13. The amount of water on the earth's surface stays perfectly **balanced** all the time!
It's kind of like a big, beautiful machine!