

Name _____

The Wonders of the Water Cycle: Why Understanding It Matters

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may include discussions of altered precipitation patterns, more frequent droughts and floods, and strategies like water conservation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
2. A world without the water cycle would lack freshwater, leading to extreme climates, water scarcity, and ecosystem collapse.
3. Responses may include water-saving practices, reducing pollution, and protecting watersheds and wetlands.
4. Consider the need for global cooperation on water management, including sustainable water use, pollution control, and equitable access to freshwater resources. Discuss challenges and benefits of such collaboration.

