

Name _____

The Marvelous Water Cycle: Nature's Never-Ending Journey

Short Answer Key

1. Condensation is the process in which water vapor changes into tiny water droplets to form clouds. It plays a crucial role in the formation of clouds and the release of moisture in the atmosphere.
2. Groundwater is water that soaks into the soil and collects in underground reservoirs. It contributes to the collection stage by replenishing underground water sources, such as aquifers, and can be accessed through wells and springs.
3. Transpiration is the process by which plants absorb water from the ground through their roots and release it into the air through tiny openings in their leaves, known as stomata. It adds water vapor to the atmosphere and aids in maintaining moisture levels.
4. Sublimation is the process in which ice or snow transforms directly into water vapor without melting. An example is the disappearance of frost from a car's windshield on a cold morning. It contributes to the movement of water between different phases.
5. Human activities can impact the water cycle through activities like water pollution. Pollution from chemicals, sewage, and industrial waste can contaminate water sources, affecting the quality of water and disrupting aquatic ecosystems.

