

Water Cycle Vocabulary

Condensation	The process where water vapor changes from a gas to liquid water.
Water Cycle	The movement of water between the atmosphere and Earth. It includes: Evaporation, Condensation, Precipitation, Surface Runoff, Transpiration and Perspiration.
transpiration	When plants release water through pores in their leaves back into the atmosphere.
Ground water	All the water that soaks into the ground, found under the Earth's surface.
Cloud	Millions of tiny water droplets or crystals. They form when water vapor in the air condenses to form liquid water or ice crystals. They can only form when dust particles and cool air are present
Evaporation	The process where liquid water changes to a gas as water vapor.
Cool temperature	Causes water to change from a gas into a liquid. Very cold temperatures cause water to become a solid (ice)
Precipitation	Any form of water that falls from clouds and reaches Earth's surface. Rain, snow, sleet or hail.
Accumulation	The part of the water cycle in which water gathers in large quantities such as rivers, lakes, oceans, glaciers, ice caps and aquifers
Energy source	The sun is the source of energy that causes water move through the water cycle.
Water vapor	Water in the form of a gas. It is invisible. Steam, clouds, and fog are not water vapor.
Solid	Firm and stable in shape, not liquid or fluid, not hollow or containing spaces
Liquid	Having consistency like that of water or oil, flowing freely but of constant volume
Gas	an air-like fluid substance which expands freely to fill any space available

Warm or hot temperature	Causes water to evaporate: change from a liquid to a gas
Aquifer	Underground layers of rock whose spaces are filled with water
Run off	the flow of water that occurs when too much storm water or meltwater flows over the Earth's surface
Water shed	A watershed is a basin-like landform defined by highpoints and ridgelines that descend into lower elevations and stream valleys. A watershed carries water "shed" from the land after rain falls and snow melts

Sources:

<http://www.lvcasd.k12.ny.us/minisites/caballero/Atmosphere/Defined%20Water%20Cycle%20Vocabulary.htm>