

# THE WATER CYCLE

A Hydrological Process Reference Guide

*[ Illustration: Sun > Evaporation > Condensation > Precipitation > Collection ]*

## **01. Evaporation**

The process where liquid water from oceans, lakes, and rivers turns into water vapor due to heat from the sun.

## **02. Condensation**

As water vapor rises into the atmosphere, it cools down and turns back into liquid droplets, forming clouds.

## **03. Precipitation**

When water droplets in clouds become too heavy, they fall back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet, or hail.

## **04. Collection**

Water falls back to Earth and gathers in oceans, rivers, and lakes, or soaks into the ground as groundwater.

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