

NATURAL WATER CYCLE SYSTEM

[DIAGRAM AREA: SOLAR RADIATION & HYDROLOGIC FLOW]

01. EVAPORATION

Solar energy heats liquid water from oceans and lakes, converting it into water vapor that rises into the atmosphere.

02. CONDENSATION

Water vapor cools as it rises, forming tiny droplets that cluster together to create clouds.

03. PRECIPITATION

Atmospheric moisture falls to Earth's surface in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail.

04. COLLECTION

Water gathers in bodies of water or soaks into the ground as infiltration, recharging aquifers and groundwater.

Educational Reference Material © Hydrological Systems Division