

THEME:	The Water Cycle
SCOPE & SEQUENCE UNIT:	The Water Cycle
OBJECTIVE:	All water is part of the water cycle.
ACTIVITY:	Exploring interactive sites and the water cycle

Notes:	Inside
Teacher Prep.:	<p>Visit the two websites: Thirstin's Water Cycle, http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw/kids/flash/flash_watercycle.html offers a simple and interactive animation of the water cycle. The ProjectWET website, http://www.discoverwater.org offers information on the three states of water and a more complex interactive animation of the water cycle. Review some of the Educator Resources for <i>the Water Cycle Unit</i>, choosing those that best apply to your class situation.</p>
Time:	1 session of 45 minutes

Skills:

- ◆ Reading
- ◆ Writing
- ◆ Ecological literacy
- ◆ Media literacy, communication and information

Objectives:

- ◆ To understand that water changes state (liquid, gas, solid) as it passes through the cycle.
- ◆ To understand the interconnectedness of systems such as the sun, gravity, weather (clouds, precipitation), river water, water in the ground, and plants and fauna.
- ◆ To understand the role of the sun and gravity in the water cycle
- ◆ To know that the amount of water on Earth is finite.
- ◆ To know that the same water has been passing through the cycle since there has been water on Earth.

Materials:

Student computers with access to internet for interactive website.

Introductory Discussion:

Make use of the interactive websites to introduce the water cycle. Then have students lead their self-inquiries exploring the ProjectWETwebsite.

Student Page:

The Water Cycle

Resources:

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/watercyclematsmallpage.html>

Read a Mat©

This site offers a downloadable placemat of the water cycle – also useful for instruction.

Taking it Further:

Refer to educator resources on the ProjectWET website,

<http://www.discoverwater.org>

offers general activities, as well as ProjectWET activities (in the ProjectWET activity guide) that apply specifically to the water cycle.

Name: _____ Date: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy)

The Water Cycle:

Draw the water cycle and label evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and transpiration. Show the 3 different states of water within the cycle. Include the sun, gravity and an aquifer in your drawing.