

Have you helped the environment today?

MARCH 22 IS WORLD WATER DAY!

On this day, everyone is encouraged to not use their water taps for the entire day. Water is a precious resource that should not be wasted.

The **water cycle** describes the continuous movement of water on, above and below the surface of the Earth. Water is essential for most life and ecosystems on the planet.

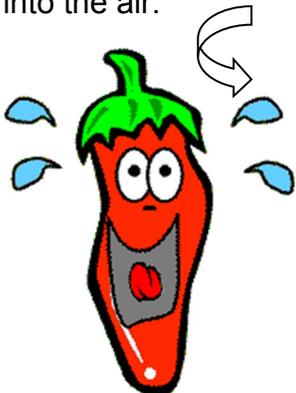
Then the cycle repeats itself!

Evaporation

Evaporation is when the sun heats up water in rivers or lakes or the ocean and turns it into vapor or steam. The water vapor or steam leaves the river, lake or ocean and goes into the air.



Do plants sweat? Well, sort of.... Just like people sweat, plants transpire. Excess water from the plant exits through its leaf tips and gives a helping hand in getting water vapour into the air.



Condensation

Water vapor in the air gets cold and changes back into liquid, forming nice white clouds. This also occurs when you pour a glass of cold water on a hot day and water starts to form on the outside of your glass! This water didn't leak from inside your glass: as warm air hit your cold glass, it turned back into a liquid!

Collection

When water falls back to earth as precipitation, it may fall back in the oceans, lakes or rivers or it may end up on land. When it ends up on land, it will either soak into the earth and become part of the "ground water" that plants and animals use to drink or it may run over the soil and collect in the oceans, lakes or rivers where the cycle starts.



Precipitation

Precipitation occurs when so much water has condensed that the air cannot hold it anymore. The clouds get heavy and water falls back to the earth in the form of rain, hail, sleet or snow. Rain usually falls from those dark grey clouds and may be accompanied by thunder and lightning!

