



## Lesson Plan: Earth's Waters

**Grade Level:** 4

**Subject:** Earth Science

**Duration:** 45–60

**NGSS 4-ESS2-2:** Analyze and interpret data from maps to describe patterns of Earth's features.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- **Identify** the distribution of water on Earth, distinguishing between saltwater (97%) and freshwater (3%).
- **Name** the five major oceans: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and Arctic.
- **Describe** the stages of the water cycle, including evaporation, condensation, and



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[science-grade-4-earth-s-waters.pdf](#))

- Worksheet: Water Cycle & Evaporation (Worksheet 1)

<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)

- Worksheet: Oceans, Tides & Pollution (Worksheet 2)

<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-2.pdf>)



- Worksheet: General Review & Assessment (Worksheet 0)  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-0.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Matching Worksheet 1  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Matching Worksheet 2  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-2.pdf>)

## Lesson Procedure

### Step 1: Introduction (5 minutes)

- Hook students by showing the globe image from the Study Guide and asking: 'Did you know



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- Distribute Vocabulary Matching Worksheet 1 and work through the definitions of key terms like 'Evaporation' and 'Ice Cap' as a class.  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)
- Complete Worksheet 1 (Water Cycle focus) together, labeling the diagrams of evaporation and precipitation. (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)

### Step 4: Independent Practice (15 minutes)



- Have students work individually on Worksheet 2, answering questions about ocean names, tides, and causes of water pollution.  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-2.pdf>)
- Ask students to write a short sentence explaining why it is important to protect groundwater from pollution.

### Step 5: Assessment (5 minutes)

- Administer Worksheet 0 as a quiz to check understanding of percentages of water, types of glaciers, and the importance of freshwater.  
(<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-0.pdf>)

### 💡 Differentiation Strategies



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- Create a poster of the Water Cycle, labeling the four main stages and drawing arrows to show movement.
- Write a 'Day in the Life' diary entry of a water droplet traveling through the cycle from the ocean to a cloud and back.

### 📚 Complete List of Available Resources:



- NewPathWorksheets: Earth's Waters Topic (<https://newpathworksheets.com/science/grade-4/earth-s-waters>)
- Study Guide: Earth's Waters (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/guide/study-guide-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters.pdf>)
- Worksheet: General Review (Worksheet 0) (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-0.pdf>)
- Worksheet: Water Cycle (Worksheet 1) (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)
- Worksheet: Oceans & Pollution (Worksheet 2) (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/worksheet/worksheet-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-2.pdf>)
- Vocabulary Set 1 (<https://newpathworksheets.com/api/vocabulary/vocabulary-science-grade-4-earth-s-waters-1.pdf>)



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# NEW PATH LEARNING

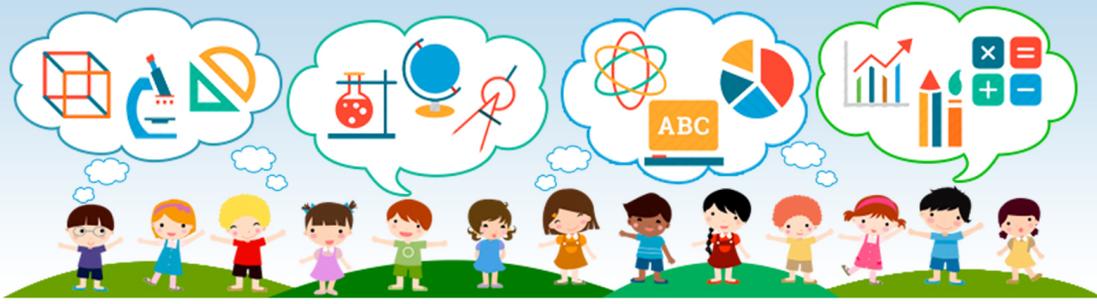
## EARTH'S WATERS

### Water, water, EVERYWHERE

Did you know that **three quarters (3/4) of Earth** is covered by **water**?  
That is a lot of water!!



#### Freshwater



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**Ice caps** are a thick permanent covering of ice and snow on land.

**Freshwater** is **essential** to humans because we use it for drinking and watering crops.

**Lesson Checkpoint:**  
**Why is freshwater essential to us?**

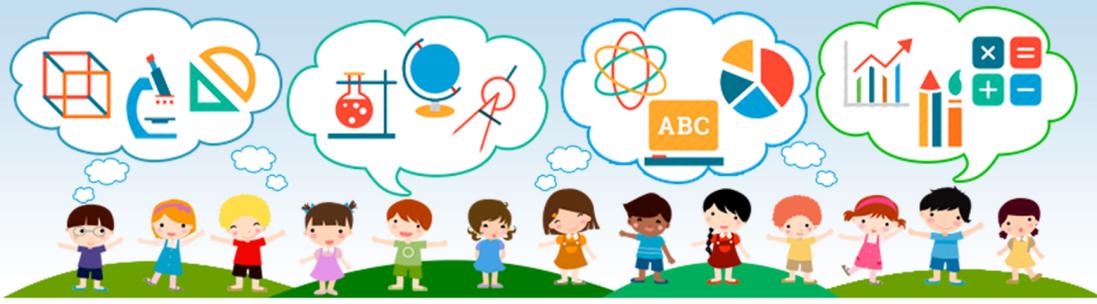
## So Much Saltwater....

Oceans are made of **salt water**. Ninety-seven percent (97%) of the Earth's water is saltwater.

There are five named **oceans** of the world, which include the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and Arctic Oceans. **Salt water** is not usable water because we can't drink it or use it for crops.

## More about the Ocean....

- **Ocean currents** keep our oceans in **constant motion** and move large amounts of water far distances.
- **Ocean tides** are periodic rising and falling of the surface of the ocean caused by the gravitational pulls of the moon as well as the rotation of the Earth.



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## *What causes the ocean tides?*

### Did you know that the Earth recycles...WATER?

The water cycle is the **constant movement of the Earth's water** from the Earth's surface to the atmosphere and the back again. Throughout the water cycle, **water** can be solid, liquid, and a gas. The **sun** powers the water cycle, because heat is what keeps the cycle going.

## Stages of the Water Cycle:



 **Evaporation:** the changing of a **liquid into a gas**

Evaporation occurs when the sun warms the water in a body of water and some of the water changes into water vapor which rises off the



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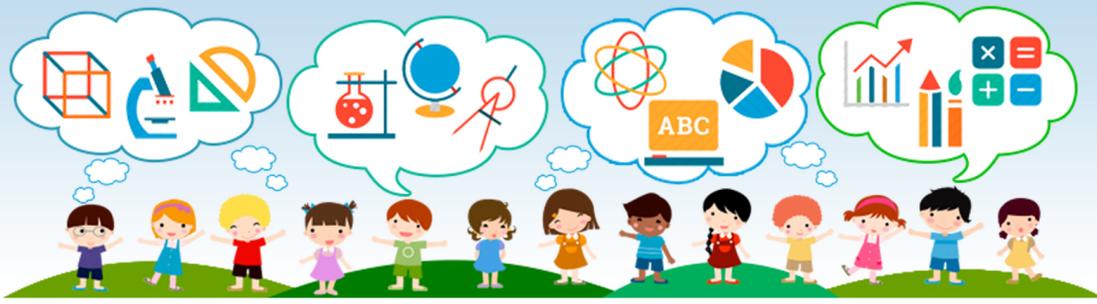
 **Condensation:** the **changing of a gas**, when cooled, back into a **liquid**

 **Precipitation:** how the water gets back to the earth, through hail, mist, rain, sleet, or snow.



**Water run off** is the water that falls back to earth as precipitation, and runs off of hills and mountains into lakes, rivers, and oceans.

Some water ends up on land and soaks into the ground, which is called **groundwater**.



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Unfortunately, sometimes water can be polluted...

**Water pollution** causes water to be contaminated with harmful substances. Industrial waste, water run off from farms filled with pesticides and fertilizer, untreated sewage drains, and air pollution are all causes of water pollution.

**Lesson Checkpoint:**  
*What is one cause of water pollution?*



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 What is the changing of a **liquid into a gas**?

- A evaporation
- B condensation
- C precipitation
- D freezing



2 **Evaporation** occurs when the sun **warms** the **water** in a body of water and some of the water changes into \_\_\_\_\_, which **rises** off the water and goes **into the air**.

- A heat
- B water vapor
- C rain
- D snow



3 Which is an example of **evaporation**?

- A ice cube melting
- B lake freezing
- C puddle drying up on a hot day

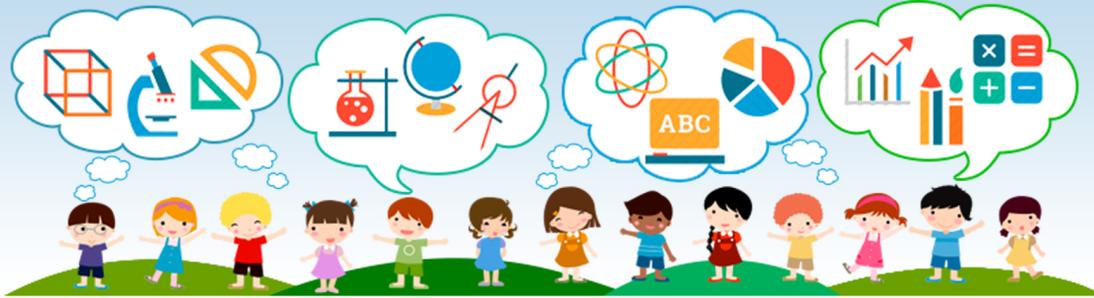


4 What aids in the evaporation process and is the **process** by which **plants give off water vapor** into the air through their leaves?

- A evaporation



5



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- B Fall
- C Groundwater
- D Rainfall



- D precipitation



9

\_\_\_\_\_ are made up of **saltwater**.

- A Rivers
- B Streams
- C Lakes
- D Oceans



10

How much of the **water** on earth is **saltwater**?

- A 1%
- B 50%
- C 97%
- D 3%





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 What is the changing of a **liquid into a gas**?

- A evaporation
- B condensation
- C precipitation
- D freezing



(A)

2 **Evaporation** occurs when the sun **warms** the **water** in a body of water and some of the water changes into \_\_\_\_\_, which **rises** off the water and goes **into the air**.

- A heat
- B water vapor
- C rain
- D snow



(B)

3 Which is an example of **evaporation**?

- A ice cube melting
- B lake freezing
- C puddle drying up on a hot day



(C)

4 What aids in the evaporation process and is the **process** by which **plants give off water vapor** into the air through their leaves?

- A evaporation



(B)

5



(A)

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(C)

- B Fall
- C Groundwater
- D Rainfall



- D precipitation



9

\_\_\_\_\_ are made up of **saltwater**.

- A Rivers
- B Streams
- C Lakes
- D Oceans



(D)

10 How much of the **water** on earth is **saltwater**?

- A 1%
- B 50%
- C 97%
- D 3%



(C)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 The **oceans** of the **world** are: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Arctic
- B American
- C Northern
- D African



2 **Saltwater** is **not usable** water for human's survival because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A it is too dirty
- B we cannot drink it or use it for crops
- C it is too cold
- D fish swim in it



3 What keeps our oceans in **constant motion** and moves large amounts of water **far distances**?

- A ocean currents
- B ocean waves

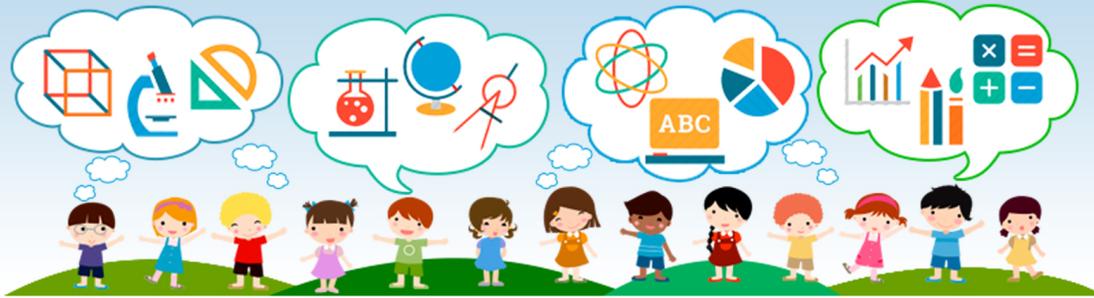


4 \_\_\_\_\_ are the **periodic rising and falling** of the surface of the ocean.

- A Salt tide and fresh tide
- B High tide and low tide
- C East current and



5



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D contaminated with



contaminants  
D workers cutting wood



9

How could **water runoff** from **farmlands** cause water **pollution**?

- A The runoff contains dirt.
- B The runoff can contain pesticides and fertilizer.
- C The runoff is usually heated.
- D The water is old and used.



10

**Untreated sewage drains** and **air pollution** are causes of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A humidity
- B runoff
- C warmer temperatures
- D water pollution





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 The **oceans** of the **world** are: Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern, and \_\_\_\_\_.

- A Arctic
- B American
- C Northern
- D African



A

2 **Saltwater** is **not usable** water for human's survival because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A it is too dirty
- B we cannot drink it or use it for crops
- C it is too cold
- D fish swim in it



B

3 What keeps our oceans in **constant motion** and moves large amounts of water **far distances**?

- A ocean currents
- B ocean waves



A

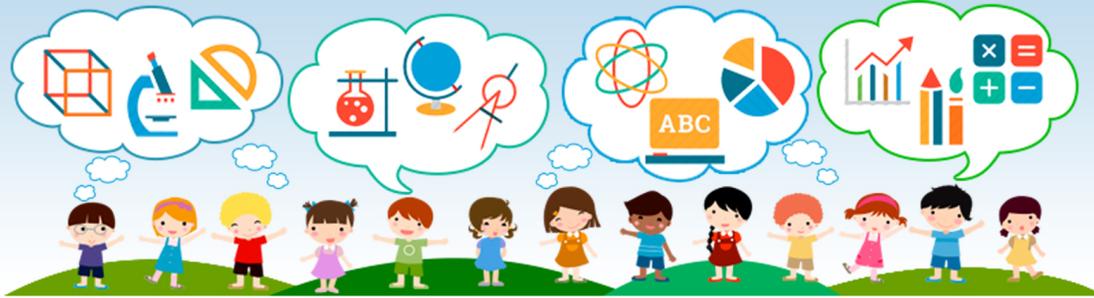
4 \_\_\_\_\_ are the **periodic rising and falling** of the surface of the ocean.

- A Salt tide and fresh tide
- B High tide and low tide
- C East current and



B

5



C

## PREVIEW

7

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C

D contaminated with



contaminants  
D workers cutting wood



9

How could **water runoff** from **farmlands** cause water **pollution**?

- A The runoff contains dirt.
- B The runoff can contain pesticides and fertilizer.
- C The runoff is usually heated.
- D The water is old and used.



B

10

**Untreated sewage drains** and **air pollution** are causes of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A humidity
- B runoff
- C warmer temperatures
- D water pollution



D



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth's surface is covered by **water**.

- A One-third
- B Three-quarters
- C One-half
- D All



2 What is **freshwater**?

- A water containing a lot of salt
- B cold water containing fish
- C water containing only a small amount of salt
- D water in the ocean



3 What percentage of water on earth is **usable freshwater** found in groundwater, lakes, rivers, and streams?

- A 1%

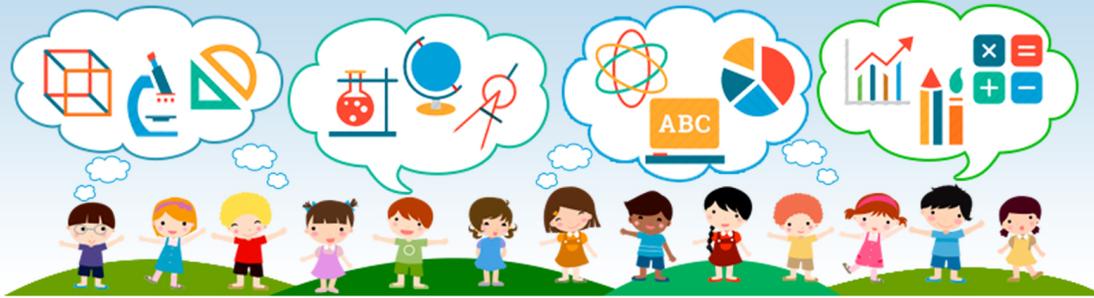


4 \_\_\_\_\_ is **freshwater beneath** the earth's surface.

- A Groundwater
- B A lake
- C A pond



5



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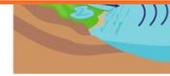
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- C used for drinking and for watering crops
- D used to cool off with



- B water cycle
- C humidity level
- D air pressure



9

Throughout the **water cycle**, water can be solid, liquid, or \_\_\_\_\_.

- A gas
- B ice
- C rain
- D snow



10

The **sun powers** the water cycle, because \_\_\_\_\_ is what keeps the cycle going.

- A cold
- B rain
- C heat
- D snow





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth's surface is covered by **water**.

**A** One-third  
**B** Three-quarters  
**C** One-half  
**D** All



(B)

2 What is **freshwater**?

**A** water containing a lot of salt  
**B** cold water containing fish  
**C** water containing only a small amount of salt  
**D** water in the ocean



(C)

3 What percentage of water on earth is **usable freshwater** found in groundwater, lakes, rivers, and streams?

**A** 1%  
**B** 55%



(A)

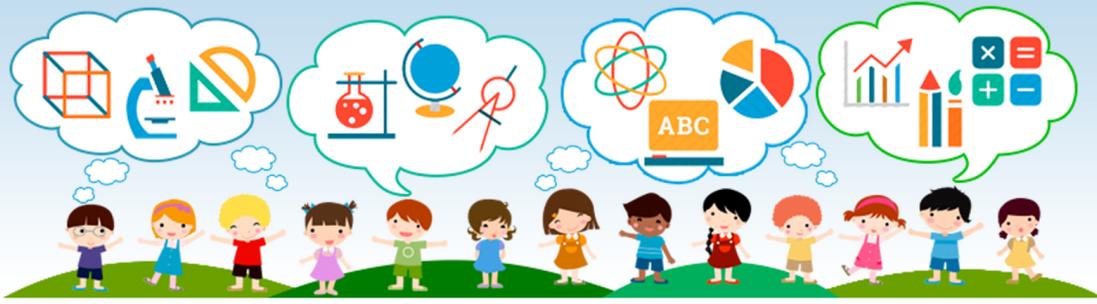
4 \_\_\_\_\_ is **freshwater beneath** the earth's surface.

**A** Groundwater  
**B** A lake  
**C** A pond



(A)

5



(A)

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6 \_\_\_\_\_ is used for drinking and watering crops.

**A** tap water  
**B** bottled water  
**C** used for drinking and watering crops  
**D** used to cool off with



(C)

7 \_\_\_\_\_ is used to measure humidity level.

**A** thermometer  
**B** water cycle  
**C** humidity level  
**D** air pressure



(C)

9 Throughout the **water cycle**, water can be solid, liquid, or \_\_\_\_\_.

**A** gas  
**B** ice  
**C** rain  
**D** snow



(A)

10 The **sun powers** the water cycle, because \_\_\_\_\_ is what keeps the cycle going.

**A** cold  
**B** rain  
**C** heat  
**D** snow



(C)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Match each of the following terms to its definition:

Precipitation

Ice cap

Ocean currents

Water cycle

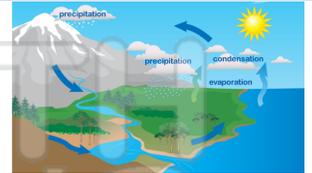
Ground water

Freshwater

Condensation

Evaporation

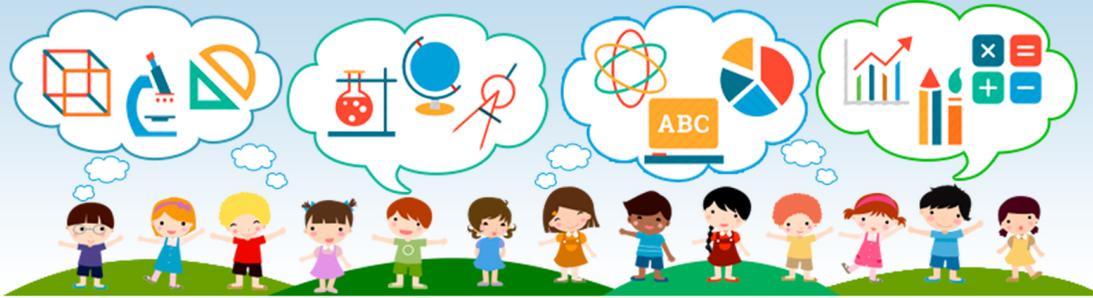
1. \_\_\_\_\_ - the movement and recycling of the Earth's water from the Earth's surface to the atmosphere and back again



2. \_\_\_\_\_ - the process by which water vapor (gas) cools and becomes liquid droplets of water



3. \_\_\_\_\_  
evaporat  
that w



4. \_\_\_\_\_

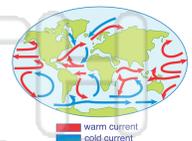
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
the Ea

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6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ - movement that keeps our oceans in constant motion and moves large amounts of water far distances



8. \_\_\_\_\_ - water that falls to the earth in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Match each of the following terms to its definition:**

Precipitation

Ice cap

Ocean currents

Water cycle

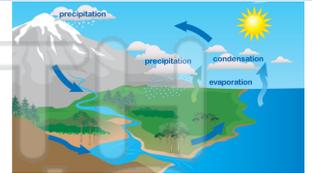
Ground water

Freshwater

Condensation

Evaporation

**1. water cycle** - the movement and recycling of the Earth's water from the Earth's surface to the atmosphere and back again



**2. condensation** - the process by which water vapor (gas) cools and becomes liquid droplets of water



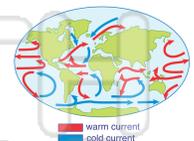
**3. evaporation** - the process by which water changes from a liquid to a gas or vapor

**4. freshwater** - water that is not salt water

**5. groundwater** - water that is found underground

**6. ice cap** - a large area of land that is covered in ice

**7. ocean currents** - movement that keeps our oceans in constant motion and moves large amounts of water far distances



**8. precipitation** - water that falls to the earth in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or hail



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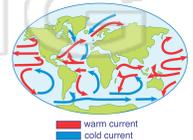
**Match each of the following terms to its definition:**

Tide	Evaporation	Ocean currents	Precipitation
Water runoff	Condensation	Water cycle	Ice cap

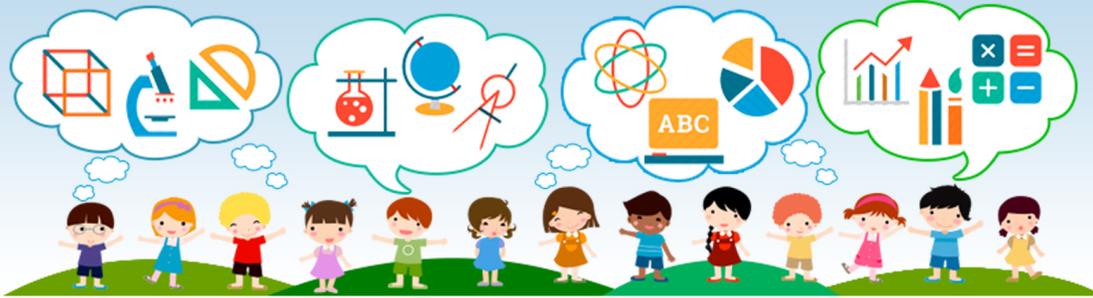
1. \_\_\_\_\_ - a thick, permanent covering of ice and snow on land



2. \_\_\_\_\_ - movement that keeps our oceans in constant motion and moves large amounts of water far distances



3. \_\_\_\_\_ sleet,



4. \_\_\_\_\_ shore period

5. \_\_\_\_\_ of hills

6. \_\_\_\_\_ the Ea

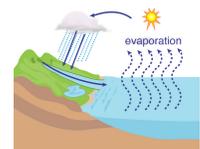
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7. \_\_\_\_\_ - the process by which water vapor (gas) cools and becomes liquid droplets of water



8. \_\_\_\_\_ - the process of a liquid changing into a gas (vapor); evaporation occurs when the sun warms the water on Earth and some of that water changes into water vapor which then goes into the air





Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

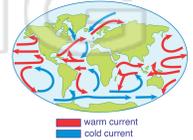
**Match each of the following terms to its definition:**

Tide	Evaporation	Ocean currents	Precipitation
Water runoff	Condensation	Water cycle	Ice cap

1. **ice cap** - a thick, permanent covering of ice and snow on land



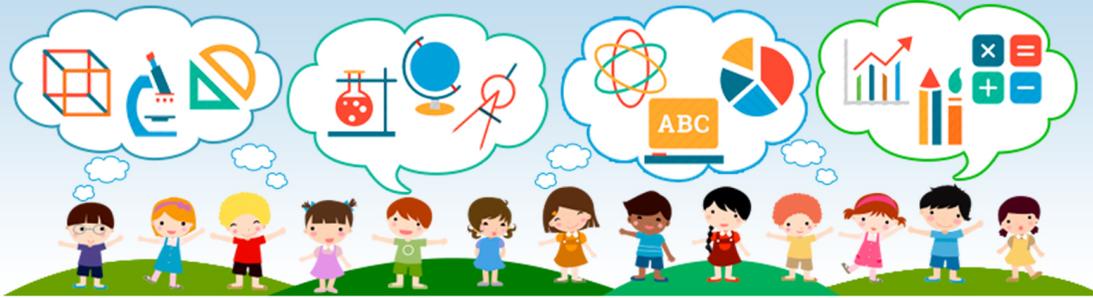
2. **ocean currents** - movement that keeps our oceans in constant motion and moves large amounts of water far distances



3. **precipitation** - water falling from the sky as rain, sleet, or snow



4. **tidal forces** - the gravitational pull of the moon and sun on Earth's oceans, causing the water to rise and fall



5. **water runoff** - water that flows over the surface of the land into streams, rivers, and oceans



6. **water cycle** - the continuous movement of water on, above, and below the surface of the Earth



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7. **condensation** - the process by which water vapor (gas) cools and becomes liquid droplets of water



8. **evaporation** - the process of a liquid changing into a gas (vapor); evaporation occurs when the sun warms the water on Earth and some of that water changes into water vapor which then goes into the air

