

# Nova's Water Cycle Adventure

*Learning objective: To describe the water cycle as a process and identify key stages including evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.*

Read the passage below carefully, then answer the questions that follow. Use your knowledge of the water cycle to explain how water moves around our planet.

Nova the owl is sitting on a high branch watching the morning sun warm up the forest pond. As the sun heats the water, it turns into an invisible gas called water vapour. This process is called evaporation. The warm vapour rises high into the cool sky. As it cools down, it turns back into tiny water droplets, forming fluffy white clouds. This stage is known as condensation. When the clouds become heavy and cannot hold any more water, the droplets fall back to the ground as rain, snow, or hail. This is called precipitation. Finally, the water flows into rivers and returns to the pond, where the cycle begins all over again.

*Word bank: evaporation · condensation · precipitation · collection · vapour · liquid*

**1. Using the information in the passage, describe what happens to water during the process of evaporation. (2 marks)**

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**2. What is the specific name for the stage where water vapour cools down to form clouds? (1 mark)**

**3. Explain why it starts to rain after a cloud has formed. Use the term 'precipitation' in your answer. (2 marks)**

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**4. If the sun did not shine on the pond, do you think the water cycle would continue? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)**

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**5. List three different forms of precipitation mentioned in the text. (3 marks)**

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**Draw:** Draw a diagram of the water cycle, clearly labelling the sun, the pond, the clouds, and arrows to show the direction of the water moving through the cycle.



*Extension challenge: Imagine you are a tiny droplet of water in the pond. Write a short diary entry describing your journey through the water cycle, starting from the pond and ending back in the sea.*