

# Nova's Water Cycle Adventure

*Learning objective: To describe the water cycle and explain the roles of evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.*

Read the passage below about Nova the owl's observations of the sky. Use the information to help you label your diagram and answer the questions. Make sure your drawing clearly shows how water moves through the cycle.

Nova the owl sat high in her favourite oak tree, watching the morning mist rise from the pond. She knew that as the sun warmed the water, it turned into an invisible gas called water vapour. This process is called evaporation. High in the sky, the air is much cooler. When the water vapour cools down, it turns back into tiny liquid water droplets, forming fluffy clouds. This is called condensation. When the clouds get too heavy with droplets, the water falls back to Earth as rain, hail, or snow, which is known as precipitation. Finally, the water gathers in rivers and oceans, ready to start the journey all over again.

*Word bank: Evaporation · Condensation · Precipitation · Collection · Water Vapour · Sunlight*

**1. Using your own words, explain what happens to water during the process of evaporation. (2 marks)**

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**2. Why do clouds form high up in the sky? Use the word 'condensation' in your answer. (2 marks)**

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**3. Give two examples of precipitation that Nova might see during a cold winter day. (2 marks)**

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**4. What provides the energy to start the water cycle? How do you know? (2 marks)**

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**5. If all the water in a pond evaporated, where does the water go? (1 mark)**

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**Draw:** Draw a large landscape featuring a pond, a mountain, the sun, and the sky. Add arrows to show the movement of water. Label the evaporation rising from the pond, the condensation forming clouds around the mountain, and the precipitation falling as rain.



*Extension challenge: Imagine you are a tiny droplet of water. Write a short diary entry describing your journey through the water cycle. Where were you before you evaporated, and where did you land after falling as precipitation?*