

Science Knowledge Organiser The Water Cycle

Subject Specific Vocabulary

changing state	The physical process where matter moves from one state to another.
Water Cycle	The process in which water is constantly recycled.
boil	To reach the temperature at which it bubbles and turns to vapour (100° C).
freeze	To reach the temperature at which liquid water turns into ice (0°C).
solid	The shape of a solid does not change on its own – it is rigid.
liquid	The shape of a liquid does change, it is not rigid. It fits the shape of the container it is put in.
evaporate/ evaporation	The process of a liquid heating up and changing to gas.
condense/ condensation	The process of a gas cooling down and changing into a liquid.
precipitate/ precipitation	Rain, snow, sleet or hail that falls to the ground from clouds.
climate	The usual weather patterns of a place.
collection	The process of water gathering in oceans, rivers, lakes and streams.

Sticky knowledge

SOLID - Stays the same shape, can be held in your hands and can be cut into a new shape. Examples – wood, metal, rock, ice

LIQUID - Flows and can be poured, changes shape to its container and volume never changes. Examples – water, juice, oil

GAS - Often invisible, always fills its container and shape & volume change. Examples – oxygen, hydrogen, carbon dioxide

The Water Cycle - Water cannot be made, it is constantly recycled through the Water Cycle. Water in seas, oceans, rivers and lakes is heated by the Sun and **evaporates**, changing from liquid to a **gas (water vapour)** that rises into the air. The water vapour **condenses** as it cools and changes back into tiny drops of water, forming **clouds**. The clouds get blown over high ground, where the water falls back to Earth as rain, snow, sleet or hail, called **precipitation**. The rainwater runs off the land into rivers and streams and travels back to the sea. The cycle then starts again.

