

Wet and Wild Water Cycle

Sun (Yellow) – The sun is the source of all energy on earth and powers the water cycle.

Water Vapor (Clear) – The part of the water cycle where water is suspended in the air or is steam and humidity.

Clouds (Gray) – When water vapor condenses but is still in the air.

Rain (Blue) – Moisture from clouds falls to the earth as a liquid

Erosion (Brown) – Rain causes erosion where soil is unprotected by vegetation. Soil particles are suspended in the water runoff.

Lakes (Light Blue) – The way we like to see a lake. Collects water from streams, and also evaporates water into the atmosphere.

Plants (Green) – Plants take in water through roots and evaporate water into the atmosphere through leaves – a process called transpiration.

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1. **HOLD UP LARGE SUN** - put on sign.

Reader: The sun heats up the water in the lakes and streams and it causes plants to **TRANSPIRE** - which means they lose water through their leaves! When these things happen, it causes the beginning of the water cycle!

2. **HOLD UP LARGE RIVER** - place below the sun to the right.

Reader: The water in the lakes and rivers warms up and water evaporates into the air. You can't see it though, it is **VAPOR**.

3. **HOLD UP THE 3 DROPS** - place them on sign above river.

Reader: These water drops will model the water going into the air.

4. **HOLD UP THE CLOUD** - place it in the air to the right and up on the poster.

Reader: Water vapor in the air gets cold and changes back into liquid, forming clouds.

5. **HOLD UP THE RAIN and SNOWFLAKES** - place them underneath the cloud a bit to the right.

Reader: The clouds get a lot of water in them and then it rains or snows and the water returns back to the ground.

6. **HOLD UP THE PLANT** - place on the sign to the right of the river.

Reader: Plants also heat up and water comes off the leaves in droplets and as vapor in the air.

7. **HOLD UP THE WATER DROPLET AND WATER DROP.**

Place the droplet on the plant leaf and the drop above the plant

8. **HOLD UP THE PUDDLE** - Place it underneath and a little to the right of the rain/snow.

Reader: The water gathers back in the rivers and lakes and the cycle starts again!

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Water Cycle keychain instructions: Take your beads and craft lace out of your bag. Place the beads on the craft lace in the order stated below and explain the colors and what they represent as you thread each bead. When all beads are on the craft lace, you will tie 3 knots at the end to keep beads in place. Your keychain is now ready to use!

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Give each student supplies to make their water cycle keychain. Allow them time to work and then review at the end. If they run out of time, have students put their supplies back in the baggie to take with them! MAKE IT INTERACTIVE!!! Have the kids talk about what they are doing with their beads!