

THE WATER CYCLE

The process by which water moves through the earth and atmosphere.



f i t @vcwdwater

CONDENSATION

Water vapor changes from a gas to a liquid and forms little water droplets as it cools.

PRECIPITATION

Water droplets fall from the atmosphere in the form of rain, sleet, snow or hail.

TRANSPIRATION

The passage of water vapor from plants into the atmosphere.

EVAPORATION

The process that occurs when water changes from a liquid to a gas caused by heat.

GROUNDWATER

Water is absorbed underground where materials like rock, sand, gravel, or clay contain water.

PERCOLATION

Water seeps through the ground and from these layers, it can be brought to the surface using a well and pump.

SURFACE RUNOFF

Rainwater that is not absorbed into the ground travels to the ocean.