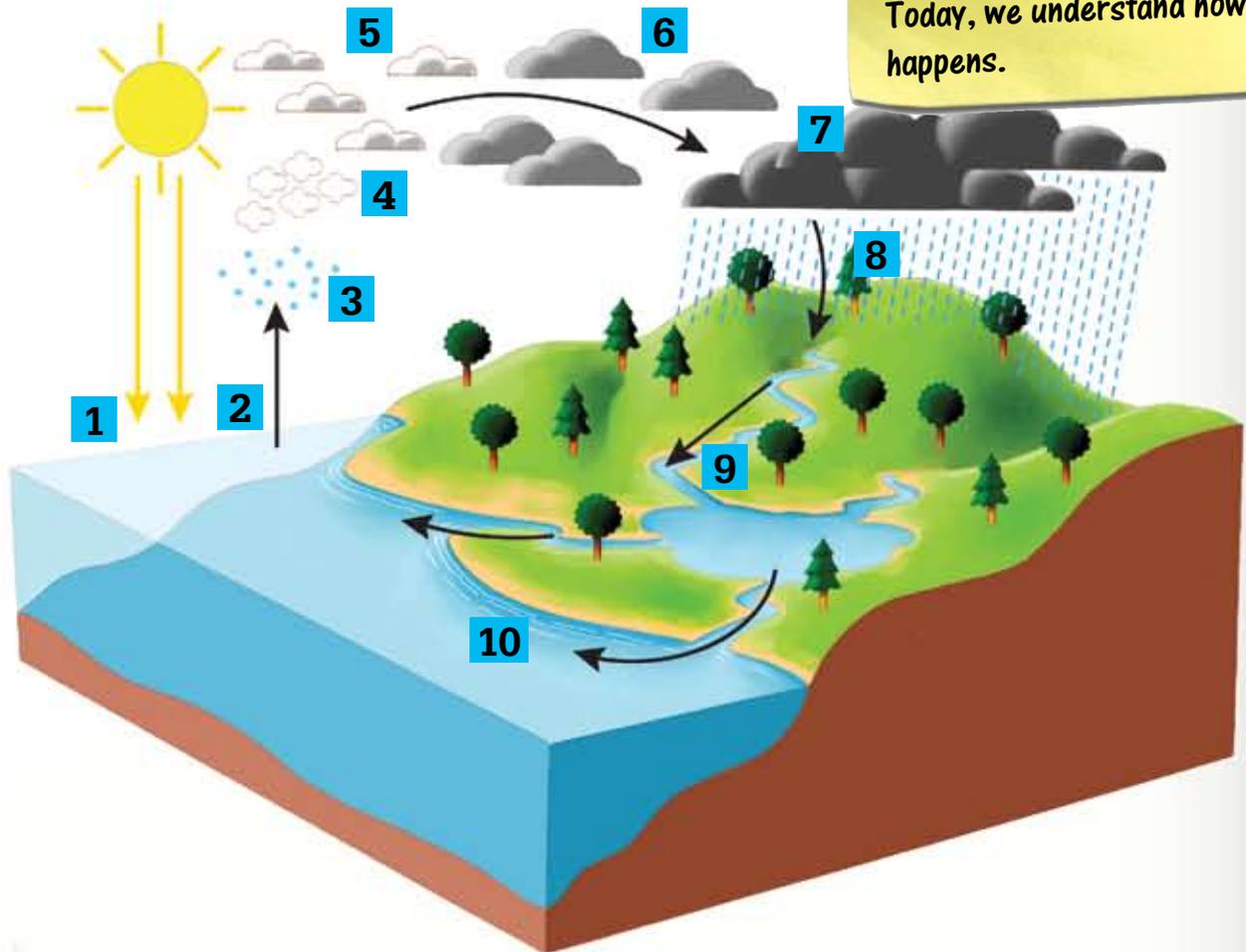


The Water Cycle

Long ago, people knew that when it was raining, water was coming from the clouds but they did not know why. Today, we understand how this happens.



Step 1: The sun heats up the water in rivers, lakes and the sea.

Step 2: When the water gets warm enough, it becomes water vapour. This is called evaporation.

Step 3: The water vapour is very light and it rises into the sky.

Step 4: When it is high in the sky, the water vapour meets cooler air.

Step 5: As the water vapour cools, it condenses. It turns back into droplets of liquid which form clouds.

Step 6: The wind moves the clouds so some of them float above the land.

Step 7: When the droplets join together, they get big and heavy.

Step 8: They fall from the clouds as rain.

Step 9: The rain falls into rivers and lakes and flows back to the sea.

Step 10: While the water flows back to the sea, more clouds are forming in the sky.

Water vapour forms different types of clouds.

1



These clouds look like cotton wool. They are flat at the bottom. They usually mean that the weather will be fine.

2



These clouds are very tall. The top of this type of cloud spreads out. These are storm clouds.

3



These clouds are very wispy and form high up in the sky. They usually mean that the weather will be fine.

4



These clouds are flat and grey all over. They are very low in the sky and usually mean that it will rain.

5



A photographer was taking a picture of these storm clouds when lightning struck the tree.

Comprehension

1 Number the sentences in the correct order.

- ___ When the water gets warm, it becomes water vapour.
- 1 The sun heats up water in rivers, lakes and seas.
- ___ The wind moves the clouds. Some clouds float above the land.
- ___ They fall as rain.
- ___ The water vapour rises and meets cooler air.
- ___ The water vapour forms clouds.
- ___ The droplets join together and get big and heavy.
- ___ The water vapour cools and turns back into droplets.

2 Discuss the answers to these questions.

Look at the pictures and information on page 17.

- 1 Which clouds
 - a are wispy? picture number _____
 - b are flat at the bottom? picture number _____
 - c are very tall? picture number _____
 - d are flat and grey? picture number _____
- 2 Which clouds
 - a usually mean the weather will be fine? picture number _____
 - b are storm clouds? picture number _____
 - c usually mean that it will rain? picture number _____

Vocabulary

1 Write each set of words in *alphabetical order*.

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1 sun | sea | storm | sky |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2 rain | rivers | rained | rises |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3 cooler | cloud | coming | cools |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4 top | this | tall | today |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5 weather | water | wind | wispy |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |



Language building



A **phrase** is a group of words which forms part of a sentence.

These clouds look **like cotton wool**.

'like cotton wool' is a **phrase**.

A **phrase** does not make sense on its own.

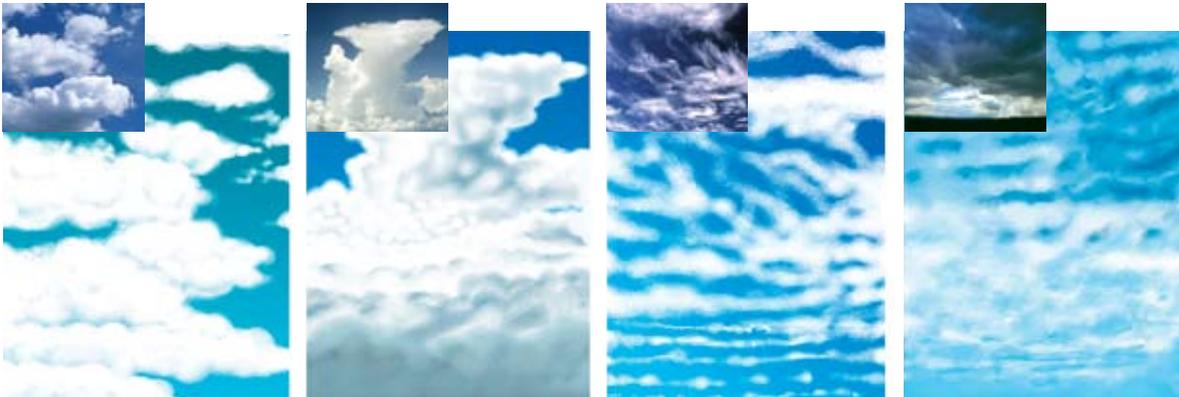


1 Complete the sentences. Choose a phrase from the box.

back to the sea water vapour droplets of liquid
big and heavy cooler air the clouds

- 1 When water heats up, it turns into _____.
- 2 As water vapour rises, it meets _____.
- 3 When water vapour cools, it turns back into _____.
- 4 The wind moves _____.
- 5 When the droplets join together, they get _____.
- 6 Rain falls into rivers and lakes, and flows _____.

2 Make up sentences using the phrases below.



- 1 like cotton wool 2 storm clouds 3 very wispy 4 flat and grey

Grammar

Look! Rain clouds are forming over the mountains.



While the small plane **was flying** over the rainforest, John **looked** out of the window. Below him colourful parrots **were flying** above the trees. Monkeys **were swinging** in the branches. Steam **was rising** in the tropical heat.

As they **were crossing** a wide river, the plane **turned** to the north and John **saw** the mountains. Grey clouds **were forming** around their high peaks. Soon the plane **was flying** through thick clouds. A flash of lightning **lit** up the sky. Heavy rain **started** to fall. They **were flying** through a tropical storm!

1 Correct the sentences.

- 1 While the plane was flying over the city, John looked out of the window.
- 2 Because it was so cold, steam was rising from the trees.
- 3 The plane turned to the south as they were crossing a lake.
- 4 Clouds were forming around the bottom of the mountains.
- 5 It started to snow as they were flying through the clouds.

2 Answer the questions.

- 1 While the plane was flying over the rainforest, what animals did John see?
- 2 Why was steam rising from the trees?
- 3 What were forming around the mountain peaks?
- 4 What did John see while he was flying through the clouds?
- 5 What was the plane flying through?

3 Finish these sentences.

- 1 While John was flying over the rainforest, he _____.
- 2 When John saw the parrots, they _____.
- 3 When John saw the monkeys, they _____.
- 4 The plane was crossing a wide river when it _____.
- 5 A flash of lightning lit up the sky as the plane _____.

Now write the sentences.

Turn to
Fluency Book 5
Programme 2.

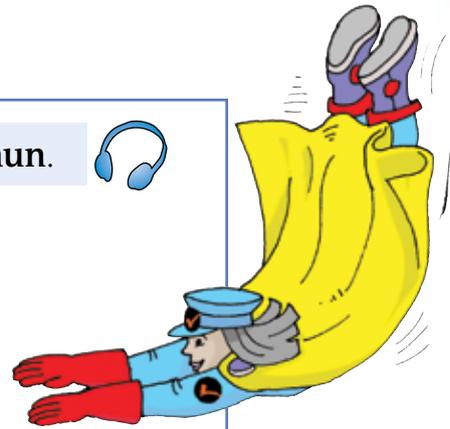


Spelling

The letters **tion** on the end of a word sound like **shun**.



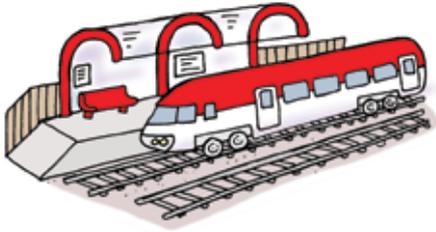
When water changes into water vapour, it is called **evaporation**.



1 Match the words and pictures. Write the words.

station fraction direction invitation

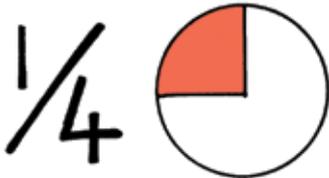
1



2



3



4



2 Add *tion* to these verbs to make nouns. Read the words.

1 collect + tion = collection

2 protect + tion = _____

3 act + tion = _____

4 inspect + tion = _____

Take off the **t** at the end of each word first!



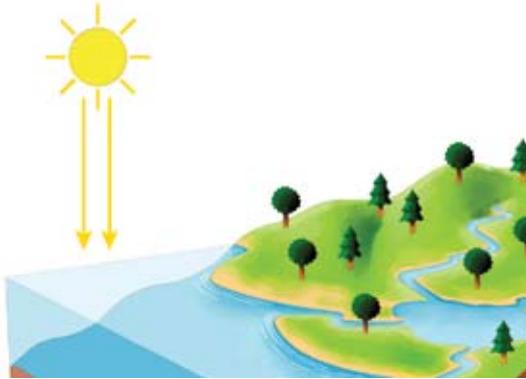
3 Read the words. Discuss what they mean. Use the dictionary pages.

Class writing

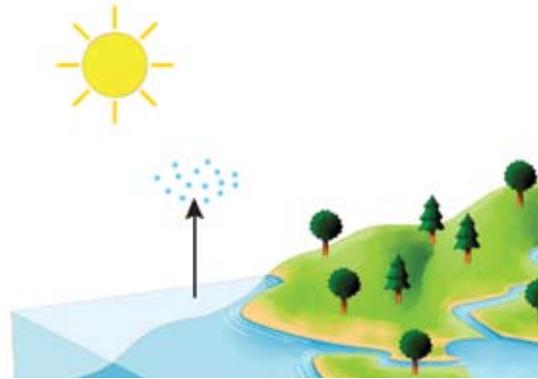
Look at the pictures.



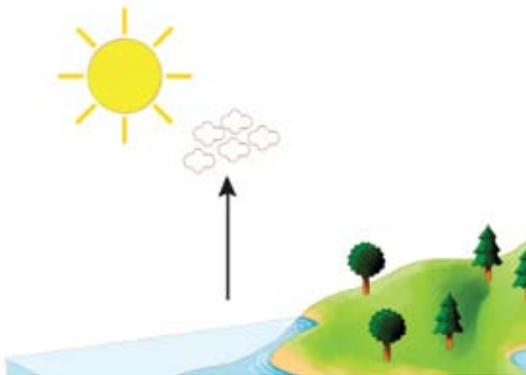
1



2



3



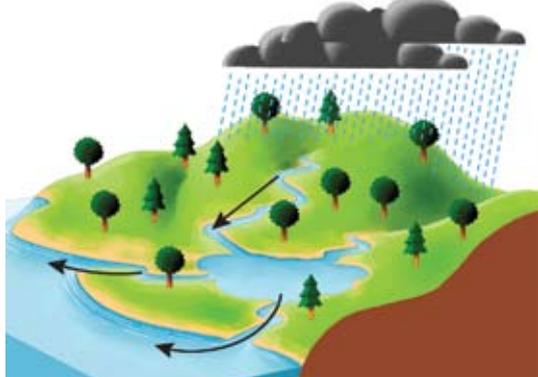
4



5



6



1 Discuss what is happening in each picture.

2 Write about each picture together on the board.

Use the **present tense**.

evaporates	rises	condenses
cools	forms	flows



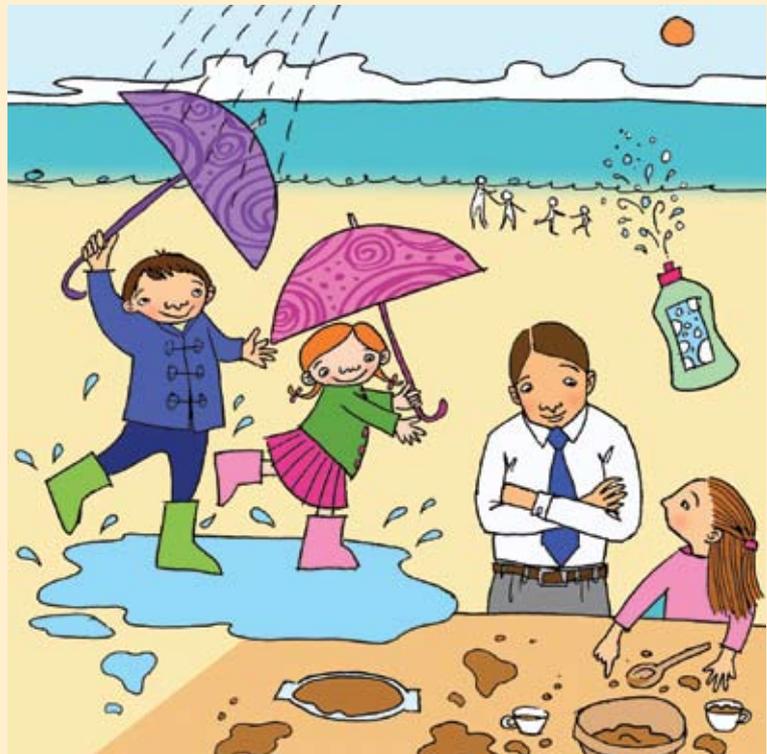
Water's for ...

Water's for ... washing, drinking
 making tea,
 cleaning the bath
 or scrubbing me;
 shining a car
 or rinsing a shirt,
 watering tomatoes,
 shifting the dirt
 ... my Mum says



But I say ...

padding in wellies
 or just in feet
 (puddles are good
 but the sea's a treat)
 squirting at brothers,
 splashing Dad,
 soaking my sister
 to make her mad!
 Mixing with mud
 to bake a pie,
 spraying the dog
 or catching a fly.
 Bath or puddle
 sleet or rain,
 let's play
 a WATER game!



Judith Nicholls

Words to help you

- wellies boots made of rubber which you wear in the rain
- shifting moving
- a treat something special
- sleet rain and snow falling together