

ENVIRONMENTAL ENCOUNTERS

Lesson Plans for the Science of Water



Drawing the Water Cycle

Suggested Grade Level:

Fourth Grade

Objective:

Students will follow step-by-step directions to create an illustration of the water cycle. They will label the basic parts of the water cycle with the correct terms.

Curriculum ties:

- ✓ Fourth grade Science Standard 1 Objective 1 a-d, Objective 2 a-e, Standard 2 Objective 1 b, Standard 3 Objective 3 c-d, Standard 5 Objective 2 a,e, Objective 3b
- ✓ Social Science (Time) Standard 2 Objective 3 a-b
- ✓ Visual Fine Arts Standard 2 (Perceiving) Objective 2 a-e, Standard 3 (Expressing) Objective 2 c-d

Time needed:

- ✓ Prep: 20 min to familiarize teacher with instructions
- ✓ Drawing: 45 min. – 1 hour

Materials needed:

- ✓ Blank sheet of paper for each student
- ✓ Pencils for each student
- ✓ Crayons, markers or colored pencils available

Teacher notes:

In this activity, students will listen as you read step-by-step directions to create a visual model of the water cycle. As you present each direction, you may find it useful to provide an example on the board, overhead, or by electronic means. Prepare students by helping them orient their papers in a 'landscape' position. The first line, the horizon, should be about 1/3 up from the bottom of the page. Help them locate this line by folding the paper horizontally at the 1/3 point. Trace the fold as the horizon. Further assist them by having them mark "L" and "R" on the left and right sides of the paper respectively.

Procedures:

In the classroom

Distribute the "Step-by-Step Water Cycle" page to all students (page 2 of this lesson). Distribute a blank paper as well. Read each step aloud. Check for understanding, making sure students follow each step correctly. When drawing is completed, invite students to use appropriate colors to finish their pictures.

Assessment

Ask students to compare their drawings to the one you completed on the board, projector or other.

Step-by-Step Water Cycle

Read each step. Follow your teacher's example.

Draw each step on your own paper.

1. Draw a horizon from the left side of your paper to the right side of your paper.
2. Draw a lake near the right edge of your paper.
3. Draw a mountain near the left edge of your paper.
4. Draw a Sun above the lake near the top of your paper.
5. Draw one cloud over the mountain.
6. Draw another cloud between the mountain and the Sun.
7. Draw three curly arrows from the lake to the second cloud.
8. Draw one straight arrow from the lake cloud to the mountain cloud.
9. Draw raindrops and snowflakes from the mountain cloud to the mountain.
10. Draw a river from the side of the mountain to the lake.
11. Write in these words where your teacher shows you:

evaporation (curly arrows)
precipitation (rain & snow)

condensation (clouds)
movement (river)

movement (clouds)
energy (sun)