

Name: _____ Date: _____

Sun-Powered Seas: A 3rd Grade Water Cycle Expedition

How does a drop of ocean water reach the top of a mountain? Trace the journey from salty waves to fluffy clouds and back again.

1. Most of the water on our planet is found in the oceans. Is this water safe for humans to drink right away?

- A. Yes, it is fresh water.
- B. No, it is salty water.
- C. Yes, because fish live in it.
- D. No, because it is too cold.

2. The sun provides the energy that makes the water cycle move.

- A. True
- B. False

3. When the sun warms up the ocean, the water turns into invisible gas called ____.

- A. Ice cubes
- B. Raindrops
- C. Water vapor
- D. Salt crystals

4. What happens high in the sky to help form a cloud?

- A. Water vapor cools down and turns back into tiny liquid drops.
- B. The sun gets hotter and burns the air.
- C. The wind blows the salt out of the ocean.
- D. Birds carry water up to the clouds.

5. Rain, snow, and hail are all types of 'precipitation.'

- A. True
- B. False

6. After it rains, water that flows over the ground and back into streams or the ocean is called ____.

- A. A puddle
- B. Runoff
- C. Ocean salt
- D. Snowfall

7. Why don't the oceans ever dry up even though the sun is always shining on them?

- A. The fish keep the water moving.
- B. The water cycle keeps putting water back into the ocean.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

- C. The ocean is too deep to evaporate.
- D. People add water to the ocean every day.

8. The water cycle has a specific starting point and an ending point.

- A. True
- B. False

9. Imagine you see fog on a bathroom mirror after a hot shower. Which part of the water cycle is this most like?

- A. Precipitation
- B. Runoff
- C. Evaporation
- D. Condensation

10. Oceans cover about ____ of the Earth's surface.

- A. One quarter ($1/4$)
- B. Half ($1/2$)
- C. Nearly three quarters ($3/4$)
- D. All of it (100%)