

Name: _____ Date: _____

Ocean Water Cycle Detective Quest for 2nd Grade

Junior hydrologists analyze how sunshine powers the global water engine and track a single drop's journey from the deep sea to the sky.

1. Imagine you are a tiny salt crystal in the ocean. If the sun warms the water around you, what happens to your water droplet home?

- A. It stays exactly where it is forever
- B. It turns into invisible gas and rises up
- C. It freezes into a giant floating iceberg
- D. It turns into sand at the bottom of the sea

2. True or False: Most of the water that falls as rain on Earth originally evaporated from our salty oceans.

- A. True
- B. False

3. High in the sky, cooled-down water vapor huddles together with dust to form _____, which is called condensation.

- A. puddles
- B. clouds
- C. rivers
- D. bubbles

4. A scientist finds that the water in the Indian Ocean is moving toward the shore like a giant under-water river. This is called:

- A. An ocean current
- B. A water slide
- C. A rain storm
- D. A coral reef

5. When a cloud gets too heavy and full of water, it releases _____ back down to the Earth's surface.

- A. sunlight
- B. wind
- C. precipitation
- D. steam

6. True or False: If the sun stopped shining, the water cycle would keep moving exactly the same way.

- A. True
- B. False

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7. If you are designing a map of the water cycle, why should you draw arrows pointing from the mountains back to the ocean?

- A. To show how fish jump uphill
- B. To show water runoff flowing into the sea
- C. To show where the sun goes at night
- D. To show how sand moves to the desert

8. Oceans are _____ than lakes because they contain a lot of dissolved minerals and salts.

- A. colder
- B. saltier
- C. smaller
- D. sweeter

9. True or False: When ocean water evaporates, the salt stays behind in the ocean.

- A. True
- B. False

10. Which of these best describes the 'Water Cycle'?

- A. A one-way trip where water disappears
- B. A never-ending loop of water moving around Earth
- C. A way to wash clothes using ocean waves
- D. A type of storm that only happens in winter