

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Salty Seas and Skyward Journeys for 1st Grade

Creative problem-solving scenarios where students predict water movement and analyze the relationship between sun energy and heavy rain clouds.

1. If you were a drop of ocean water that wanted to visit a tall mountain, what is the first step of your journey?

Answer: C) Warming up and turning into invisible gas

To leave the ocean and travel through the air, water must evaporate (turn into a gas) using heat from the sun.

2. Imagine the Sun took a long vacation and the sky stayed dark. The movement of water would likely ____.

Answer: B) Stop or slow down a lot

The sun provides the energy (heat) that powers the water cycle; without it, evaporation cannot happen.

3. True or False: If you catch a raindrop in your mouth, it tastes salty because it came from the ocean.

Answer: B) False

When water evaporates from the ocean, the salt stays behind, so rainwater is always fresh water.

4. A cloud is getting very heavy and dark over a forest. What is the most likely 'output' of this system?

Answer: C) Water will fall as precipitation like rain or snow

When clouds become heavy with condensed water droplets, gravity pulls the water down as precipitation.

5. The ocean is like a giant bowl that ____ water from rivers all over the world.

Answer: A) Collects

The ocean acts as a collection point where runoff and river water settle after traveling across the land.

6. True or False: The water you drink today could be the same water that a dinosaur drank millions of years ago.

Answer: A) True

Name: _____ Date: _____

Earth recycles the same water over and over again through the water cycle; we don't get 'new' water.

7. Which of these shows the water cycle working in a different order than usual?

Answer: D) Snow -> Ice -> Dry Sand

The water cycle involves water changing states and moving; turning into 'dry sand' is not part of the cycle.

8. When steam from a hot shower touches a cold mirror and turns into drips, it is acting like ___ in the sky.

Answer: B) A forming cloud

Condensation happens when warm vapor cools down and turns back into liquid, which is how clouds form.

9. True or False: Plants help the water cycle by 'breathing' out water vapor through their leaves.

Answer: A) True

This is called transpiration; plants release water into the air, contributing to cloud formation.

10. If you are designing a map of a healthy planet, where should most of the water be located?

Answer: B) In huge, salty oceans

Oceans cover more than 70% of Earth's surface and are the main reservoir for the planet's water cycle.