Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Answer Key: Salty Splash and Cloud Crash: High-Level Pre-K Hydrology Quiz

Young scientists evaluate how heavy clouds transform into rain and analyze why ocean water stays salty while rain stays fresh.

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1. If a cloud gets too heavy with water and 'breaks,' what happens to the animals living below?

Answer: B) They get wet because the water falls as precipitation

Even for very young learners, understanding the cause-and-effect of precipitation is a key NGSS foundation. When clouds can no longer hold moisture, it must fall.

2. True or False: The big blue ocean is salty, but the rain falling from the sky is not salty.

Answer: A) True

This requires evaluation of water types; though rain comes from ocean evaporation, the salt is left behind in the sea.

3. When the sun warms up a puddle, the water 'hides' in the air. This disappearing act is called ____.

Answer: C) Evaporation

Identifying 'evaporation' as the process of liquid turning to gas scaffolds the vocabulary needed for later earth science cycles.

4. Imagine a river running down a mountain. Where is that water trying to go for its big nap?

Answer: B) Back to the deep, wide ocean

This introduces the concept of runoff and the interconnectedness of water bodies in the global cycle.

5. A tiny drop of water in the ocean can travel all the way to a cloud and back. This never-ending circle is the ____.

Answer: A) Water Cycle

Synthesis of the movement of water requires identifying the 'Water Cycle' as a continuous biological and physical system.

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6. True or False: If the sun stopped shining, the water in the ocean would still turn into clouds easily.

Answer: B) False

This is a challenging scenario for Pre-K, requiring the child to evaluate the Sun as the primary energy source for evaporation.

7. Which of these looks like water 'clumping together' to make a cloud in the sky?

Answer: A) Steam from a hot cocoa cup

Formative assessment of condensation through a relatable, concrete example like hot cocoa steam.

8. The ocean is very deep. Most of the animals that live there need ___ water to survive.

Answer: C) Salt

Distinguishing between fresh and salt water environments is a high-level classification task for early learners.

9. True or False: Cold air high in the sky helps water vapor turn back into liquid water drops.

Answer: A) True

Analyzes the role of temperature in condensation, a foundational concept for understanding weather patterns.

10. If you were a raindrop falling into the ocean, what would happen to you next in the cycle?

Answer: C) Eventually, the sun would pull you back up to the sky

This requires original analysis of the cycle's continuity, recognizing that water is recycled rather than 'lost.'