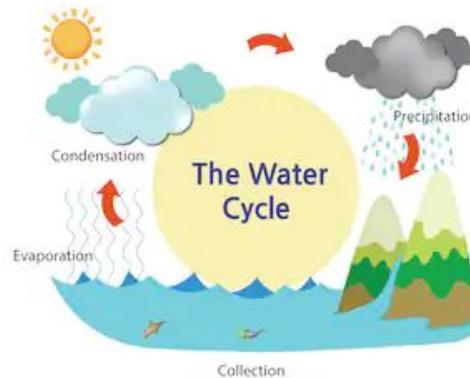
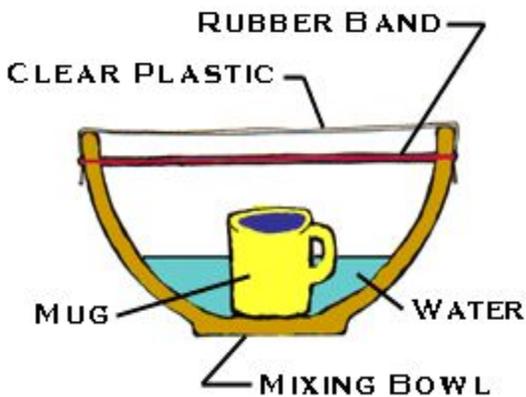


## Create Your Own Water Cycle

**Objective:** You and your child will use household items to create a miniature model that will demonstrate the process of the water cycle.



### Materials:

- a large bowl (a clear one if you have it to make observations easier)
- a sheet of clear plastic wrap
- a dry cup that will fit inside the bowl (a coffee mug will work)
- a long piece of string or large rubber band
- water

### Instructions:

1. Pour water into the bowl until it is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  full.
2. Place the cup in the center of the bowl. Be careful not to splash any water into it.
3. Cover the top of the bowl tightly with the plastic wrap.
4. Tie the string or rubber band around the bowl to hold the plastic wrap in place.
5. Place the bowl in a sunny place outside.
6. Now it's time to wait and watch!

### What did we learn?

Over time you should be able to observe the water cycle in progress! The water in the base of the bowl represents the ocean. Over time the heat from the sun will cause this water to *evaporate*. The *water vapor* will rise and *condense* on the surface of the plastic wrap, which represents the clouds. This will appear as moisture just like a cold glass of water on a hot summer day. As the moisture builds up, water droplets should form and *precipitate*, or fall like rain back into the bowl. You will know if your experiment has



worked because you will now see water in the dry cup that you placed in the bottom of the bowl.

**Why does this matter?**

An infographic with a light blue background and a white border. At the top, the title "HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS WEATHER" is in a bold, dark brown font, followed by "THE SCIENCE" in a much larger, bold, dark brown font. Below the title, a subtitle reads "CHANGES IN THE WATER CYCLE ARE INCREASING THE RISK OF DROUGHTS AND FLOODS." in a smaller, dark brown font. The infographic contains four white rounded rectangular boxes, each with an icon and a text description:

- 1. A red thermometer icon. Text: "Higher temperatures mean there is more evaporation from the land and sea into the atmosphere."
- 2. A blue cloud with rain icon. Text: "As air gets warmer, it can hold more water vapor. This can lead to more intense rainstorms."
- 3. A green wave icon. Text: "Intense rainstorms increase the risk of flooding. Much of the water runs off into rivers and streams, doing little to dampen soil."
- 4. A yellow globe with a cracked surface icon. Text: "This, combined with increased temperatures, increases the risk of drought."

**Key Terms:**

- *Water Vapor*- water in the form of a gas.
- *Evaporation*- process where liquids change to a gas or vapor.
- *Condensation*- process where gas changes into a liquid when it touches a cooler surface or air.
- *Precipitation*- the release of water from the sky in a liquid or solid state.

**Additional Resources:**

- <https://climaterealityproject.org/blog/climate-change-impacting-water-cycle>