

# WEATHER OR NOT

Follow the thrilling life of Water through its many forms and stages, from Evaporation to Precipitation and everything in between!

## K-3RD NGS STANDARDS COVERED:

- K-ESS2-1:** Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time.
- 2-LS2-1:** Plan and conduct an investigation to determine if plants need sunlight and water to grow.
- 2-ESS1-1:** Provide evidence that Earth events can occur quickly or slowly.

## KEYWORDS:

### Evaporation

Water heats up and rises into the air

### Condensation

Water in the air groups together when it cools

### Precipitation

Water in clouds falls back to earth

### Cycle

A process that repeats; Water cycles rising and falling

### Greenhouse

A building that uses the water cycle to help grow plants

## ASK YOUR CLASS:

**Q:** What is the weather like where you live? **A:** Start a class discussion about general weather trends. Some topics can include: how many days in a week or month it rains, temperature differences in the morning and afternoon, or other weather patterns students identify. (K-ESS2-1)

**Q:** What are the parts of the water cycle? At which point in the cycle do clouds form? **A:** Water on Earth warms up and evaporates into the air. As it rises it cools down and collects together - or condenses. As it collects, it forms clouds that eventually collect enough water that water drops fall back to Earth as precipitation.

**Q:** How does a greenhouse help a plant grow? **A:** Plants need water, heat, and light to grow well. Greenhouses contain water inside so it goes through the water cycle on a small scale which helps stabilize the moisture levels. They are made of clear material so light easily reaches the plants which helps keep the plants warm to grow even in cold weather.

**Q:** What would happen if you left your mini greenhouse in a dark area? **A:** The sunlight heats the water inside, so without that the water cycle would not occur. It would also not provide the light or warmth that plants need to grow. (2-LS2-1)

**Q:** What is faster, a cloud forming, or a seed growing to a full size plant? **A:** Rain clouds can form in less than a minute or over the course of hours. This is pretty quick compared to how long it takes for most plants to grow. Some plants take years to fully mature! (2-ESS1-1)