How Water Travels in a Circle

Water is always moving, even if you cannot see it. This movement is called the water cycle. It is an important part of how weather happens.

First, the sun warms water in lakes, rivers, or puddles. The water turns into a gas and goes up into the air. This is called evaporation. Next, the gas cools down and changes back into tiny drops. These drops make clouds. This part is called condensation.

When the drops in the clouds get big and heavy, they fall down as rain or snow. This is called precipitation. Now the water is back on the ground, ready to start the cycle again. The water cycle helps make the weather we see each day.



Student Name:

Date:

How Water Travels in a Circle		Comprehension Questions:
Water is always moving, even if you cannot see it.	(10)	Literal Question: What is the name of the movement
This movement is called the water cycle. It is an	(20)	of water? Answer:
important part of how weather happens.	(26)	The water cycle.
First, the sun warms water in lakes, rivers, or	(35)	Student Answer:
puddles. The water turns into a gas and goes up	(45)	
into the air. This is called evaporation. Next,	(53)	Correct Incorrect
the gas cools down and changes back into tiny	(62)	Inferential Question:
drops. These drops make clouds. This part is	(70)	Why is the water cycle important for weather?
called condensation.	(72)	Answer:
When the drops in the clouds get big and heavy,	(82)	It helps create rain and clouds. Student Answer:
they fall down as rain or snow. This is called	(92)	
precipitation. Now the water is back on the	100)	
ground, ready to start the cycle again. The water (109)	CorrectIncorrect
cycle helps make the weather we see each day. (118)	Vocabulary Question: What does 'evaporation' mean in
		the passage?
-()		Answer: Water changing into a gas and
Scoring Guide		rising. Student Answer:
Text Level: F&P GRL J Grade Level: 1 Word Count: 118 Total Words Read:	V	CorrectIncorrect
Errors:		
WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM)		Notes:

WCPM: Below grade level At grade level Above grade level

Prosody: 1 2 3 4

Comprehension: ______ / 3 correct

How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

Assess Oral Reading Fluency

- Give the student a copy of the passage. Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- Stop the student when one minute has passed. Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the Scoring Guide. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
∧ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric		2	3	4	
Expression and Volume	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression	
Phrasing	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing	
Smoothness	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident	
Pace	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace	

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
First	0 – 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	Fourth	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
Second	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	Fifth	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
Third	50 – 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	Sixth	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

^{*} Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

Fluency Builder: How Water Travels in a Circle

Passage Details

Grade Level: 1

Reading Level: F&P GRL J

Word Count: 118

High-Frequency Words

again, called, each, first, see

Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

• Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

Link to Writing or Discussion

• Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:

"Describe where you have seen water evaporate."

"Why do you think the water cycle never stops?"

Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)