

EXPERIMENT 1: Mini Water Cycle

Challenge: Create a small scale replica of the water cycle



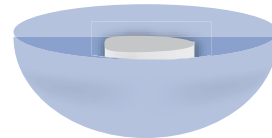
WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large, clear bowl
- Plastic wrap
- A weight (just heavy enough to keep the plastic wrap taut)
- Smaller container (a cut-down yogurt cup works well)
- Rubber band, piece of string, or packaging tape

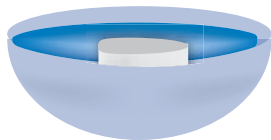


STEP-BY-STEP:

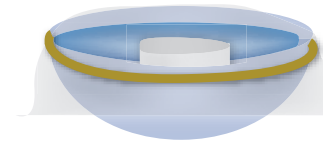
1. Place the small container in the middle of the large, clear bowl.



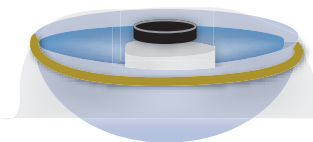
2. Fill the bowl with a little water, being careful not to fill the small container inside.



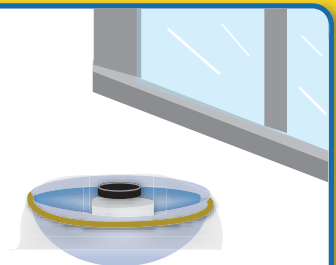
3. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and fasten the plastic wrap around the rim of the bowl with your rubber band, string or packaging tape.



4. Put a weight on top of the plastic wrap in the center of the bowl.



5. Put your experiment on a windowsill or somewhere that the sun will hit it.



QUESTIONS:



- How long does it take for water to evaporate and condense on the plastic wrap?
- Where does the water go after it condenses on the plastic wrap?
- Would dark-colored water evaporate more quickly or more slowly than plain water? Why?
- Do you think air temperature or water temperature is more important to evaporation? Why?