The Water Cycle
Family Page

Question: What is the water cycle? How does it work?

What’s Happening in Class?
We are working in teams to create water cycle models for the study of water cycle processes. Classroom activities related to this investigation focus on the water cycle and pollution and/or where water resources cycle on the Earth. For more specific information on this lesson, visit the Science for Ohio website at www.environmentaleducationohio.org and click on the Water Cycle inquiry.

What Can We Do at Home?
1) Discuss the following water cycle terms and look for examples in and around your home.
   - evaporation: moisture traveling upward as a gas
   - condensation: moisture collecting in clouds as a solid or liquid
   - precipitation: moisture falling from the sky as rain, snow, etc.
   - collection: moisture collecting in puddles, ponds, rivers, oceans, glaciers, etc.
   - percolation: moisture mixing with the soil
   - transpiration: moisture evaporating from the leaves of plants

2) Create your own water cycle model at home. Visit Science for Ohio for directions.

3) Consult the following resources to learn more about the water cycle.

Books
A River Ran Wild by Lynne Cherry

World Wide Web
BrainPOP has an award-winning site which plays animated two-minute movies that answer kids’ questions about health, science, and technology. Interactive quizzes are provided while movies load. View their movie on the water cycle at www.brainPOP.com