

The Water Cycle

Vocabulary:

Collection: precipitation that has fallen from the sky that has been collected in a body of water

Condensation: the process of gas (water vapor) cooling and changing into liquid water

Conservation: using resources wisely (not wastefully)

Essential: absolutely necessary

Evaporation: the process of liquid water being heated and changing into a gas (water vapor)

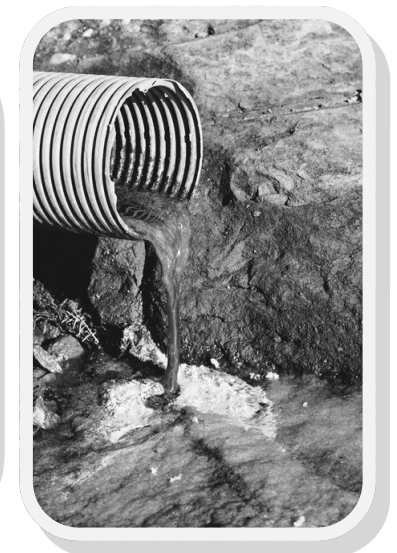
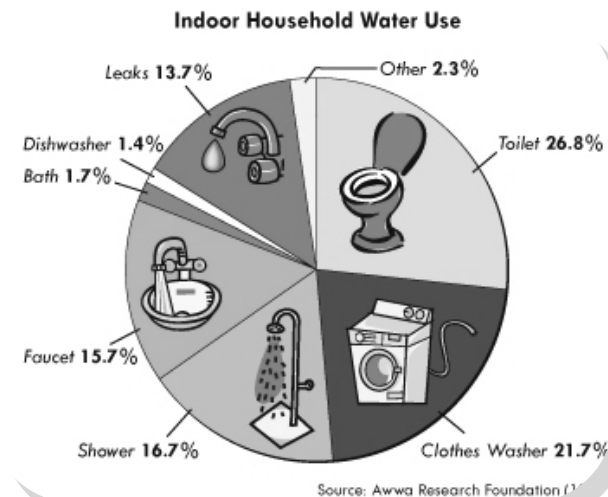
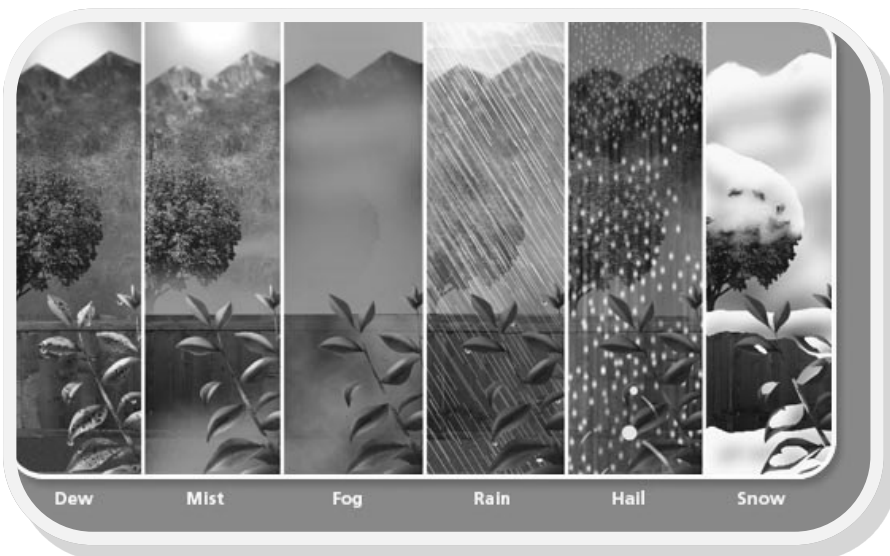
Precipitation: a liquid or solid form of water falling from clouds (ex. hail, sleet, snow, rain)

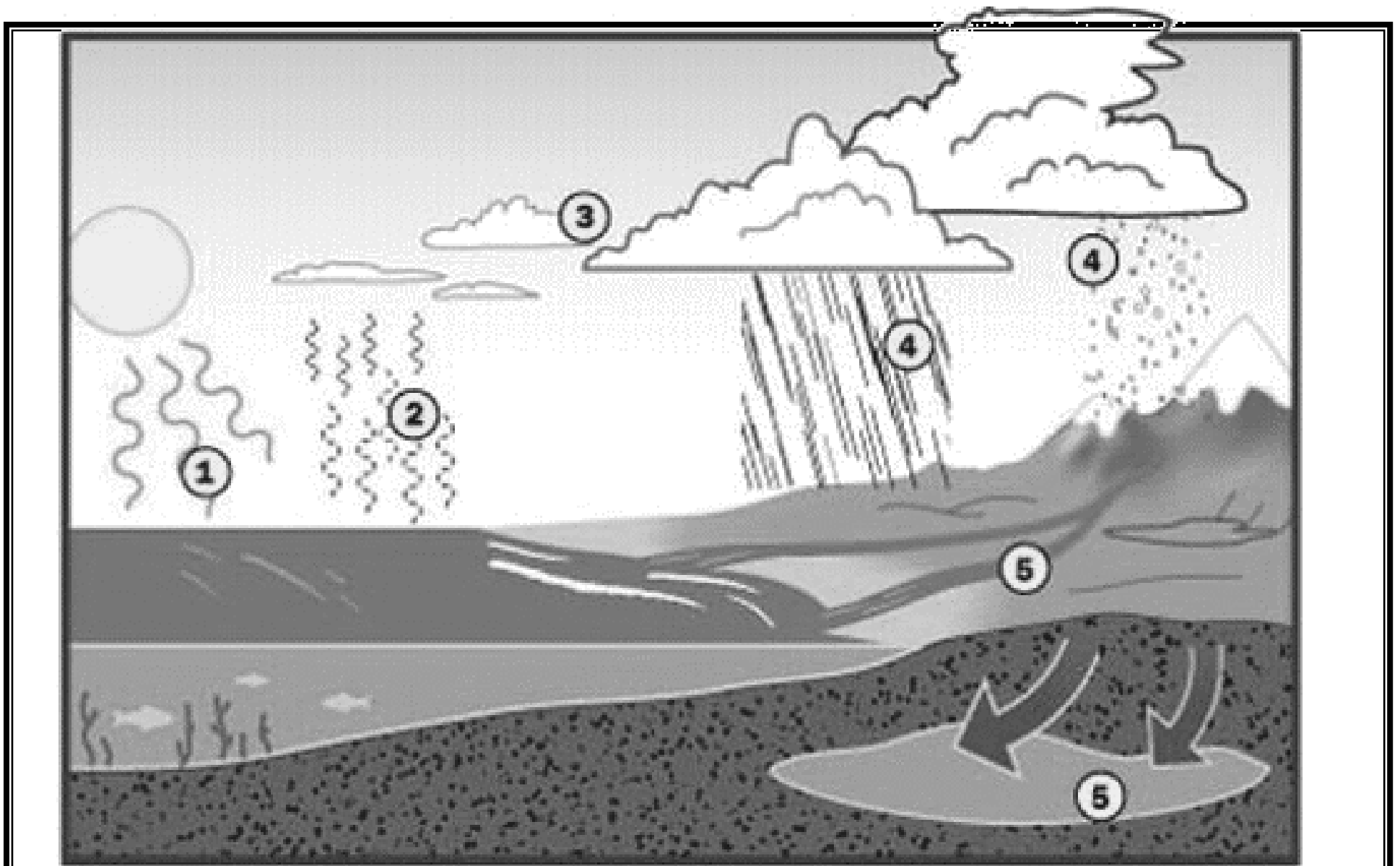
Pollution: the introduction of harmful substances to the environment; reduces the amount of usable water

Reservoir: a man made area used for collecting and storing water

Runoff: precipitation not absorbed by soil; flows into surface water

Water Cycle: movement of water from Earth to air to Earth again through the processes of evaporation, condensation, and precipitation





- 1 The energy source of the water cycle (the sun) heats the ocean.
- 2 Ocean water **evaporates** into the air.
- 3 The water vapor cools and **condenses** to become droplets, which form clouds.
- 4 When enough water condenses, the droplets become heavy enough to fall to the ground as **precipitation**.
- 5 Some precipitation collects in ground wells and reservoirs. The rest becomes runoff that flows back to the ocean.