



# STAY CONNECTED.

# STAY CURIOUS.

## Water Cycle in a Bag

In nature, the sun's heat causes water to **evaporate** from lakes, rivers, and oceans. As the water vapor rises, it **condenses** to form clouds when it reaches cooler air. When the clouds are full of water, they **precipitate** or release some of the water as rain. Then the cycle starts over again.

### You'll need:

- Plastic resealable baggie (quart or sandwich size)
- Permanent marker
- Water (about ¼ cup)
- Tape
- Optional: Blue food coloring
- Sunny window

### What to do:

1. Using the permanent marker, draw clouds and the sun at the top of the plastic bag and water along the bottom.
2. Optional: Place 1-2 drops of food coloring in the water.
3. Gently pour the water into the baggie and seal tightly.
4. Tape the baggie in a sunny window and leave it for 1-2 hours.
5. Observe! Over a few days, you will see that the water has warmed in the sunlight and evaporated into vapor. As that vapor cooled it began changing back into liquid, just like a cloud. When enough water condensed, the air couldn't hold it anymore and the water fell in the form of precipitation (rain).

