

## Where and when:

**Date:** Tuesday, 22 April 2025

**Time:** 11:00

**Duration:** 30 minutes

**Location:** [bbc.co.uk/livelessons](https://bbc.co.uk/livelessons)

*This programme is available to view from home or school, and no sign-up is required. Simply visit the website on the day and follow the instructions on the page to watch.*



### Curriculum links:

National Curriculum, England - Key Stage 2 - Science

National Curriculum, Northern Ireland - Key Stage 2 - The World Around Us

Curriculum for Excellence, Scotland - 1st and 2nd Level - Sciences

Curriculum for Wales - Progression steps 2 and 3 - Science & Technology

### Pupils should:

- Learn that water can change state when heated or cooled.
- Understand the key processes of the water cycle: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, run off and collection.
- Identify the importance of water as a limited resource and think about practical ways to conserve it.

## Setup:

This Live Lesson can be watched on Tuesday 22 April 2025 at 11:00 on the CBBC channel and from 09:00 on the BBC Teach website. It will remain online afterwards to be used as a teaching resource whenever you need it.

We will be running a live commentary page on BBC Teach during the live broadcast to share contributions from children watching from home and school. Pupils will still be able to follow the activities if they don't have printed activity sheets to hand.

## Lesson content:

This programme supports the teaching of Science and Geography for primary learners aged 7–11. It is linked to the curricula of England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

## Section 1 – Evaporation

- Section 1 introduces the focus of our lesson: water. We learn that water is essential to all life on Earth and is continuously recycled through the **water cycle**.
- Pupils receive their mission: to explore the Rainforest Biome at the Eden Project and complete a diagram by identifying each stage of the water cycle.
- We start by learning that **evaporation** occurs when liquid water is heated and changes into a gas known as water vapour.
- For activity 1, pupils are challenged to think of examples of **evaporation** that they might encounter in their daily lives.

Download activity sheet 1 [here](#)

## Section 2 – Transpiration and condensation

- Section 2 explores **transpiration**, where water is absorbed by plant roots, moves through the stem or trunk, and evaporates from the leaves into the atmosphere. It's similar to evaporation but occurs within plants.
- We also learn that **condensation** happens when water vapour cools and turns into liquid droplets, forming clouds in the atmosphere.
- We then listen to scenarios and determine whether they describe **evaporation** or **condensation**.
- For activity 2, pupils give a thumbs up for **evaporation** or a thumbs down for **condensation** in response to new scenarios.

## Section 3 – Precipitation, run off and collection...and back to the start!

- In the final section, we explain that **precipitation** is any liquid or frozen water that falls to the ground and are challenged to identify different weather types from descriptions and weather symbols before deciding whether they count as **precipitation**.
- We reveal that the final stage of the water cycle is **run off and collection** and explore the impact of vegetation on **run off** by completing a short investigation.
- For activity 3, students apply their learning by matching the stages of the water cycle to their correct definitions.

Download activity sheet 3 [here](#)

### Useful links:

- BBC Teach - [KS1/KS2 Primary Geography: The water cycle](#)
- [Water cycle diagram - blank](#)
- [Water cycle diagram - completed](#)
- Eden Project - [Learn with Eden](#)

### Follow-up activities:

- **Where do socks dry the fastest?** In this comparative enquiry, encourage the children to try drying socks in different places. Where do they dry first? Inside or outside? In a sunny place or a shady place? Ask them to think about the conditions which affect the rate of evaporation eg: wind, temperature.