

Activity: The Water Cycle Dance

Objective: Students will learn the stages of the water cycle (evaporation, condensation, precipitation, collection) by acting them out through movement and dance.

Materials:

- *Rivers of Sunlight* by Molly Bang
- Music player
- Variety of music (upbeat, slow, flowing)
- Large open space for movement

Expected Time: 30-45 minutes

Procedure:

1. **Read the Book:** Read *Rivers of Sunlight* aloud to the students, emphasizing how the sun's energy moves water through its cycle.
2. **Introduce the Water Cycle Stages:** Briefly explain each stage of the water cycle:
 - **Evaporation:** Water changes from liquid to vapor (gas) and rises.
 - **Condensation:** Water vapor cools and changes back into liquid, forming clouds.
 - **Precipitation:** Water falls from clouds as rain, snow, or sleet.
 - **Collection:** Water collects in rivers, lakes, and oceans.
3. **Assign Movements:** Assign a movement or dance step to each stage. For example:
 - Evaporation: Students slowly rise, reaching their arms upward like vapor.
 - Condensation: Students move in a circular motion, huddling together to form a cloud.
 - Precipitation: Students wiggle their fingers downwards, like falling rain, or make swirling motions for snow.
 - Collection: Students move outwards, spreading their arms to show water flowing into a collection area, or crouch down low.
4. **Act Out the Water Cycle:** Play music and have students move according to the stage of the water cycle. You can call out the stages or create a story with the music to guide their movements.
5. **Repeat and Vary:** Repeat the activity several times, varying the music and encouraging students to create their own movements.
6. **Discuss:** After the activity, discuss the different stages and how they are

interconnected. Ask students how the sun plays a role in the water cycle.

Vocabulary List (Based on *Rivers of Sunlight*)

Here is a vocabulary list of 10 words from *Rivers of Sunlight* by Molly Bang:

- Sunlight
- Water
- Vapor
- Rise
- Cool
- Clouds
- Rain
- Flow
- Cycle
- Energy

Fill-in-the-Blank Worksheet

Instructions: Fill in the blank with the correct word from the vocabulary list.

1. The _____ gives the water _____ to move.
2. _____ changes from a liquid to a gas.
3. Water _____ and turns into _____.
4. When water vapor gets _____, it forms _____.
5. _____ falls from the clouds.
6. The water _____ repeats again and again.
7. Water droplets _____ and _____ in the sky.