## The Water Cycle

The water cycle describes how water moves through the Earth's atmosphere, land, and oceans. It consists of several main stages:

- 1. Evaporation The sun heats up water in rivers, lakes, or oceans, turning it into water vapor.
- 2. Condensation The water vapor cools and turns into droplets, forming clouds.
- 3. Precipitation When the clouds become heavy, the water falls back to Earth as rain, snow, or hail.
- 4. Collection The water collects in bodies of water like rivers, lakes, and oceans. Some of it also soaks into the ground.

This cycle repeats and is important for life on Earth.