

Reading Comprehension Worksheet: Main Topic

Read the short story and answer each question.



How Rain Forms

Water travels in a cycle.

Rain doesn't just appear—it moves through a process called the water cycle. This cycle includes evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.

Evaporation happens first.

The sun heats up lakes, rivers, and oceans. The warm water turns into water vapor and rises into the air. That's called evaporation.

Next comes condensation.

The water vapor cools down high in the sky. It turns into tiny water droplets that form clouds. This is called condensation.

Then, precipitation falls.

When the clouds get heavy, the water falls back to Earth as rain, snow, or hail. This part of the cycle is called precipitation.

The cycle starts again.

After rain falls, it collects in puddles, lakes, and oceans. Then the sun heats it up, and the process begins again.



Name: _____

What Do Firefighters Do?

1. What is the main topic of this text?

- A. Why the sky is blue
- B. How rain forms through the water cycle
- C. How to collect rain in buckets
- D. Why storms are dangerous

2. What is the focus of the third paragraph?

- A. How rain falls to the ground
- B. What clouds look like
- C. How water vapor turns into clouds
- D. Why snow is cold

3. Fill in the blank:

Water vapor cools and turns into clouds. This is called _____.

4. What are the steps in the water cycle described in the text?

5. How does each paragraph help you understand a different part of how rain forms?



Parent and Teacher Guide

Guide Reading Level: K

Lexile Level: 330L-480L

Grade Level: 2nd Grade, Beginning of the Year

Genre: Informational (Weather/Science)

Introducing the Text

"Today we're going to learn how rain forms. As we read, we'll look for the *main topic* of the whole text, and we'll also figure out what each paragraph focuses on. This will help us understand how all the parts of the water cycle fit together."

Vocabulary: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, water vapor, droplets

Before Reading Discussion Questions

1. What do you know about rain or clouds?
 2. Have you ever seen puddles disappear after it rains?
 3. What do you think the water cycle means?
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During Reading Discussion Questions

1. What is the main idea of this text so far?
 2. What does the second paragraph help us understand?
 3. How does each new paragraph add a different part to the cycle?
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After Reading Discussion Questions

1. What is the main topic of the entire text?
 2. Which paragraph helped you understand condensation the most?
 3. How do all the paragraphs work together to teach us how rain forms?
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Activity Idea

Give students a blank water cycle diagram with arrows. As a class or in pairs, they'll label each stage (evaporation, condensation, precipitation, collection) and write a one-sentence summary of what happens in each part. Then, students draw something they've seen that matches one stage (like clouds, puddles, or rain).

