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| condensation | particles of H ₂ O in a cooling gas slow down and come together to form droplets of water. |
| evaporation | the fastest moving water molecules escape and form a gas. |
| precipitation | the release of water from clouds in the form of rain, sleet, snow, or hail. |
| transpiration | the movement of water out of a plant to the atmosphere in the form of a gas. |
| water cycle | A cycle that involves the processes of evaporation, condensation and precipitation. |
| water pollution | The contamination of water by the discharge of harmful substances. |
| runoff | water that cannot be absorbed into the ground |
| river | a flowing body of fresh water |
| estuary | an area where fresh water mixes with salt water |
| ocean | a body of salty water |
| melting | when water changes from a solid to liquid |
| freezing | when water changes liquid from solid |
| infiltration | movement of water on earth's surface |
| absorption | taking liquid into a root system for plants from soil |
| ground water | water found in the ground |
| surface water | water found on earth's surface |
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