Water Cycle In A Bag

**Day 1:** Get a Ziploc sandwich bag from our pantry and use a black Sharpie to draw a sun, cloud and water. Then fill a small measuring cup with 1/4 cup of water and add 4 drops of blue food coloring. Make sure the bag is closed tight.

When you are certain that it won't leak, use tape to hang the bag on the window and then sit back and watch it work.

**Day 2, 3, and 4** Observations of the bag to see what is happening each day. Record your data on Lab sheet

**Day 5:** Discuss the science behind this experiment

**Science behind experiment:** Since the Earth has a limited amount of water, it has to change around and around in something called the water cycle. Over the next few days, you should see the water warm in the sunlight and **evaporate** into vapor.

As that vapor cools, it begins to change back into liquid **condensed** just like a cloud.

And when enough water is condensed, the air can't hold it anymore and then the water will fall down in the form of precipitation.

In the real water cycle, rain, sleet or snow might land in a body of water like a river or ocean. But it also might fall on dirt where it soaks into the soil and either becomes ground water that animals and plants drink or it runs over the soil and falls into rivers, oceans or lakes (aka **collection**).

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Pine Cone Bird Feeder

**Materials:** pine cones, peanut butter, birdseed, and string

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Spread peanut butter over the pinecone, getting in all the little crevices. A plastic knife works well and makes for easy clean up, too.
2. Put a cupful of birdseed in a plastic bag (use a grocery store bag, just make sure there are no holes in it), then place the pinecone inside and gently shake to coat.
3. Remove the pinecone and tie a piece of string or floral wire around the top stem of the pinecone. It is helpful to wind it around a couple of times to secure it well.
4. If desired, tie with a pretty ribbon and hang from a tree!

**Day 1:** outdoor activity search for pinecone//**Day 2:** complete the above instructions//**Day 3, 4, and 5** observation of the different birds that you see at your feeder. Record your observations on paper