

Now that students are familiar with the water cycle, let's see if we can create our own mini-water cycle.

2. Ask students to draw and label a diagram of the experiment.

Materials required	Number
Large clear glass bowl	1 per experiment
Ceramic mug (shorter than the bowl)	1 per experiment
Cling wrap	
Masking tape	
Ice	
Blue food colouring (optional)	
Hot water*	
Activity 4 – Draw your own water cycle	1 each cycle

*Use appropriate safety precautions when handling hot water, adult supervision may be necessary.

Method

1. Place the glass bowl in a visible location.
2. Place the ceramic mug in the middle of the bowl.
 - This represents a lake, surrounded by mountains.
3. Fill the glass bowl to just below half way with hot water. (Blue food colouring was added at this point).
 - This represents the ocean heated up by the sun.

(Hint: hotter water created better results, please use appropriate safety measures)

4. Cover the bowl tightly with cling wrap.
5. Use masking tape to secure the cling wrap tightly and ensure there are no gaps.
6. Place a large ice cube (or a couple of smaller ones) on top of the cling film directly over the mug.
 - This represents the clouds.
7. Observe what happens.
8. After a few minute you will see the water condensing under the ice.
9. Carefully dry the ice melt on the cling wrap to see your results.

Student action (options for assessment)

1. Ask students to predict what will happen when the ice is added to the experiment.



Figure 1: Materials set up



Figure 2: Experiment underway

Extension activities

Explore the importance of heat.

- Try two side by side experiments:
 - i. one using hot water and
 - ii. one using cold water
- Compare and discuss the results.
- Have students draw what they observed and encourage them to use a science word i.e. evaporation, condensation.