



# Water Cycle Definitions

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use what you have learned in class about the water cycle to define these **Water Cycle** words and give an example.

1. **condensation** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

2. **evaporation** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **precipitation** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

4. **water cycle** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

5. **transpiration** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

6. **infiltration or percolation** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

7. **ground water** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

8. **aquifer** \_\_\_\_\_

example: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ *ANSWER KEY* \_\_\_\_\_

## Water Cycle Definitions

Use a dictionary and what you have learned in class about the water cycle to define these **Water Cycle** words and give an example.

**1. condensation** water vapor turning into a liquid

example: dew, "sweat" on a cold drink

**2. evaporation** water turning from a liquid to a gas (vapor)

example: water in a pan boiling away

**3. precipitation** water falling to earth in a liquid (rain) or a solid (hail, snow)

example: rain, hail, snow, sleet, freezing rain

**4. water cycle** the flow of the earth's water supply from the atmosphere to the earth and back, which includes, evaporation, transpiration, condensation, precipitation, runoff, surface water and ground water.

example: the activity in a self-contained terrarium

**5. transpiration** water vapor given off by plants in the process of photosynthesis

example: the water vapor which rises from the trees in The Great Smoky Mountains of Tennessee and the Carolinas

**6. infiltration** or percolation water filtering through soil and porous rocks to enter the groundwater

example: the activity of a leech field in a septic system

**7. ground water** water that has percolated through the soil to reach porous material or found in the water table

example: water available from a well

**8. aquifer** an underground bed or layer of earth gravel or porous earth that yields water

example: The Ogallala Aquifer