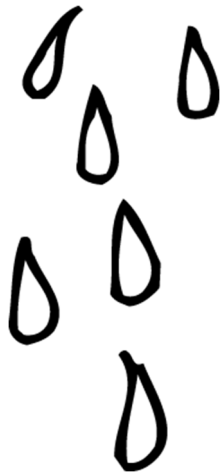
Name _____

The Mini Water Cycle

Objective:

Students will create a model to observe and understand the water cycle, including evaporation, condensation, and precipitation.



Materials:

- A clear plastic ziplock bag (quart-sized or gallon-sized)
- Permanent marker
- Water
- Blue food coloring (optional)
- Clear tape
- A sunny window

The Scientific Method Steps:

Ask a Question:

How does water move in the water cycle?

Make a Hypothesis: (What will happen to the water when the bag is taped to the window in the sunlight?)

_____

_____

_____

_____

Set Up the Experiment:

Prepare the Bag:

Use a permanent marker to draw a sun at the top and waves or a lake at the bottom to represent where the water will start.

Add Water:

Pour a small amount of water (about ¼ cup) into each bag. Add a drop or two of blue food coloring if you want the "water" to be more visible. Seal the bag tightly so no water can escape.

Tape the Bag to the Window:

Tape the sealed bag to a sunny window with clear tape. Make sure the bag is in a spot where it will get plenty of sunlight.

Observe the Changes:

Over the next few hours or days, observe what happens inside your bag.

Record Observations:

Draw what you see in your science journal or on this worksheet. Label the sun, water, and raindrops.

Conclusion:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____