# May: Unit 5A: Energy Transfer and the Water Cycle

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s):
Time Period: **May**
Length: **2 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

We have been told not to waste water, but in reality all water gets recycled. Water evaporates from bodies of water, from land, and from organisms as they transpire, and becomes water vapor in the atmosphere. When the vapor condenses, it returns to earth in the form of precipitation. In this concept, you will learn about energy transfer and the water cycle.

## Enduring Understandings

**Lesson Objectives**

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Describe the main processes of the water cycle.
- Explain how the force of gravity and energy from the sun drive the water cycle.
- Explain how weather is related to water cycle processes.
- Explain how energy from the sun drives wind and water currents.
- Explain how energy from the sun is distributed around the globe.

## Essential Questions

- **Overarching Question**
    - How and why is Earth constantly changing?
- **Focus Question**
    - How do the properties and movements of water shape Earth's surface and affect its systems?
- **Lesson Questions**
    - How do solar energy and gravity drive the processes of the water cycle?
    - What drives global wind and ocean currents?
    - In what ways does the water cycle influence local weather?
- **Can You Explain?**

- How do water, wind, and thermal energy from the sun move about Earth's surface?

## Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

- The Five E Instructional Model

  Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- Engage (45–90 minutes)

  Students are presented with the phenomena of global water and wind currents and are asked to consider movement of water in a pot being heated on the stove. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- Explore (90 minutes)

  Students investigate questions about the movement of global wind and ocean currents using evidence from text and media assets. Students complete an activity on the forces involved in the water cycle.

- Explain (45–90 minutes)

  Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of how water, wind, and thermal energy from the sun move about Earth's surface.

- Elaborate with STEM (45–135 minutes)

  Students apply their understanding of energy transfer and the water cycle as they learn about environmental engineers and cloud formation. Students also design a wind farm and research solutions to problems caused by air pollution.

- Evaluate (45–90 minutes)

  Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

## Integration of Career Exploration, Life Literacies and Key Skills

Students learn about engineers working with wind power.

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| | Gathering and evaluating knowledge and information from a variety of sources, including global perspectives, fosters creativity and innovative thinking. |
| | An individual's strengths, lifestyle goals, choices, and interests affect employment and income. |
| 9.4.8.CI.1 | Assess data gathered on varying perspectives on causes of climate change (e.g., cross- |

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| | cultural, gender-specific, generational), and determine how the data can best be used to design multiple potential solutions (e.g., RI.7.9, 6.SP.B.5, 7.1.NH.IPERS.6, 8.2.8.ETW.4). |
| 9.4.8.CI.3 | Examine challenges that may exist in the adoption of new ideas (e.g., 2.1.8.SSH, 6.1.8.CivicsPD.2). |
| 9.4.8.CI.4 | Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries. |
| | Multiple solutions often exist to solve a problem. |
| 9.4.8.CT.1 | Evaluate diverse solutions proposed by a variety of individuals, organizations, and/or agencies to a local or global problem, such as climate change, and use critical thinking skills to predict which one(s) are likely to be effective (e.g., MS-ETS1-2). |
| | Increases in the quantity of information available through electronic means have heightened the need to check sources for possible distortion, exaggeration, or misrepresentation. |
| 9.4.8.IML.1 | Critically curate multiple resources to assess the credibility of sources when searching for information. |
| | Digital tools make it possible to analyze and interpret data, including text, images, and sound. These tools allow for broad concepts and data to be more effectively communicated. |
| 9.4.8.IML.3 | Create a digital visualization that effectively communicates a data set using formatting techniques such as form, position, size, color, movement, and spatial grouping (e.g., 6.SP.B.4, 7.SP.B.8b). |
| 9.4.8.IML.4 | Ask insightful questions to organize different types of data and create meaningful visualizations. |
| 9.4.8.IML.7 | Use information from a variety of sources, contexts, disciplines, and cultures for a specific purpose (e.g., 1.2.8.C2a, 1.4.8.CR2a, 2.1.8.CHSS/IV.8.AI.1, W.5.8, 6.1.8.GeoSV.3.a, 6.1.8.CivicsDP.4.b, 7.1.NH. IPRET.8). |
| 9.4.8.IML.8 | Apply deliberate and thoughtful search strategies to access high-quality information on climate change (e.g., 1.1.8.C1b). |
| | Some digital tools are appropriate for gathering, organizing, analyzing, and presenting information, while other types of digital tools are appropriate for creating text, visualizations, models, and communicating with others. |
| 9.4.8.TL.2 | Gather data and digitally represent information to communicate a real-world problem (e.g., MS-ESS3-4, 6.1.8.EconET.1, 6.1.8.CivicsPR.4). |
| 9.4.8.TL.3 | Select appropriate tools to organize and present information digitally. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP1 | Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP2 | Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP4 | Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP5 | Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP6 | Demonstrate creativity and innovation. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP7 | Employ valid and reliable research strategies. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP8 | Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP9 | Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP10 | Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP11 | Use technology to enhance productivity. |
| CRP.K-12.CRP12 | Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence. |
| CAEP.9.2.8.B.1 | Research careers within the 16 Career Clusters ® and determine attributes of career success. |

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| CAEP.9.2.8.B.4 | Evaluate how traditional and nontraditional careers have evolved regionally, nationally, and globally. |

## Technolgy and Design Integration

Technology is fully integrated with the Discovery Techbook

## Interdisciplinary Connections

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| LA.RST.6-8 | Reading Science and Technical Subjects |
| LA.RI.6.1 | Cite textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. |
| LA.RST.6-8.1 | Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts. |
| LA.RST.6-8.2 | Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions. |
| LA.RI.6.2 | Determine a central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; provide a summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments. |
| LA.RST.6-8.3 | Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks. |
| LA.RI.6.4 | Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings. |
| LA.RST.6-8.4 | Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics. |
| LA.RST.6-8.5 | Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic. |
| LA.RST.6-8.6 | Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text. |
| LA.RI.6.7 | Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue. |
| LA.RST.6-8.7 | Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table). |
| LA.RI.6.8 | Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not. |
| LA.RST.6-8.8 | Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text. |
| LA.RST.6-8.9 | Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic. |
| LA.RI.6.10 | By the end of the year read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above, with scaffolding as needed. |
| LA.RST.6-8.10 | By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently. |
| LA.W.6.1 | Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. |

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| LA.WHST.6-8.1 | Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.1.A | Introduce claim(s) about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.1.B | Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.1.E | Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented. |
| LA.W.6.2 | Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.A | Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information using text structures (e.g., definition, classification, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, etc.) and text features (e.g., headings, graphics, and multimedia) when useful to aiding comprehension. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.B | Develop the topic with relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.C | Use appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.D | Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.2.E | Establish and maintain a formal/academic style, approach, and form. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.4 | Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.5 | With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.6 | Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.7 | Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.8 | Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.9 | Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. |
| LA.WHST.6-8.10 | Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, metacognition/self correction, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences. |

## Differentiation

Struggling Students

1. Encourage students who are struggling with the concepts to think about their personal experience:

ELL

1. Before beginning, review the vocabulary terms *evaporate/evaporation* and*condense/condensation* and ask students what they would look for as evidence of these two processes.

Accelerated Students

1. Challenge students to construct an argument supporting this claim: Gravity is the force that

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| Does a puddle dry faster on a sunny day or on a cloudy day? | | causes water vapor to rise into the air. Students will need to connect what they know about gravity, density, and buoyancy.<br>2. Challenge students to consider the possible roles of other sources of energy (for example, geothermal) and other forces (for example, electromagnetic forces between atoms and molecules) in the water cycle. How important to the water cycle are these energy sources and forces compared to sunlight and gravity? |

Differentiation in science can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the

planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.

- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.

- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered.

## Modifications & Accommodations

Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMOCATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

**Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:**

IEP and 504 Accommodations will be utilized.

IEP and 504 plans will be utilized.

## Benchmark Assessments

**Benchmark Assessments** are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

**Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:**

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

**Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:**

The students will complete  two summative benchmark tests administered by the teacher via Google Forms and Google Classroom. There is one benchmark test administered in the middle of the year around January, and a second one administered in May.

## Formative Assessments

Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

**Formative Assessments used in this unit:**

Formative assessments as listed in unit.

## Summative Assessments

**Summative assessments** evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

**Summative assessments for this unit:**

Summative assessments as listed in unit.

## Instructional Materials

Materials as required by Discivery Techbook labs.

## Standards

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| MS-PS3 | Energy |
| | Examples of experiments could include comparing final water temperatures after different masses of ice melted in the same volume of water with the same initial temperature, the temperature change of samples of different materials with the same mass as they cool or heat in the environment, or the same material with different masses when a specific amount of energy is added. |
| | Plants, algae (including phytoplankton), and many microorganisms use the energy from light to make sugars (food) from carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and water through the process of photosynthesis, which also releases oxygen. These sugars can be used immediately or stored for growth or later use. |
| MS-LS2-3 | Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem. |
| | Food webs are models that demonstrate how matter and energy is transferred between producers, consumers, and decomposers as the three groups interact within an ecosystem. Transfers of matter into and out of the physical environment occur at every level. Decomposers recycle nutrients from dead plant or animal matter back to the soil in terrestrial environments or to the water in aquatic environments. The atoms that make up the organisms in an ecosystem are cycled repeatedly between the living and nonliving parts of the ecosystem. |
| MS-ESS2 | Earth's Systems |
| MS-ESS2-4 | Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth's systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity. |
| | Emphasis is on the ways water changes its state as it moves through the multiple pathways of the hydrologic cycle. Examples of models can be conceptual or physical. |
| ESS2.C | The Roles of Water in Earth’s Surface Processes |
| 6-8.MS-ESS2-4 | Develop a model to describe the cycling of water through Earth’s systems driven by energy from the sun and the force of gravity. |
| 6-8.MS-ESS2-4.ESS2.C | The Roles of Water in Earth’s Surface Processes |
| 6-8.MS-ESS2-4.ESS2.C.1 | Water continually cycles among land, ocean, and atmosphere via transpiration, evaporation, condensation and crystallization, and precipitation, as well as downhill flows on land. |
| 6-8.MS-ESS2-4.ESS2.C.2 | Global movements of water and its changes in form are propelled by sunlight and gravity. |