



Shaving cream clouds

The sun heats the water and draws it from the land, evaporates up into the cooler atmosphere and condensates to create clouds. It then falls as precipitation/ rain. This is what we know as the weather cycle!

In this experiment, you will learn what happens when clouds become full and fall as precipitation/rain.



What you need:

- Clear jar
- Water
- Shaving cream
- Blue food colouring or any colour that you have



Method:

1. Fill the jar to the bottom of the neck leaving about 3-4cm at the top.
2. Spray the shaving cream onto the water and spread with your finger to cover the top of the jar.
3. Begin to drip the food colouring onto the shaving cream until it becomes saturated and starts to stream into the water underneath.

What did we learn?

Clouds are formed by evaporated water from the Earth's surface condensing to form clouds. When these clouds become too full and the water droplets in them are too heavy they fall as rain/precipitation.

It's important to know there is no guarantee where this rain will fall. It could fall onto other catchments, onto the land or into the ocean. This is why it is important to conserve what we do catch in our catchments, as we don't always know when we will get our next rain fall.

Evan though our dams and catchments are very large, they can evaporate quickly and levels can fall rapidly, especially during the warmer months. So what can you do to conserve water and make the most of our rain that we do receive?

Take short **4 min showers**, only **water your garden before 10 and after 4** to avoid evaporation and **sweep hard surfaces**. Together we can reduce our water usage and use our knowledge of the water cycle to our advantage!



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