



HOMEMADE CLOUD COLLECTOR



Water is one of the most valuable resources on our planet, which is why it's so important to understand the different parts of the water cycle. From collection and evaporation to condensation and precipitation, water goes through a lot of changes. Let's see just how it works!

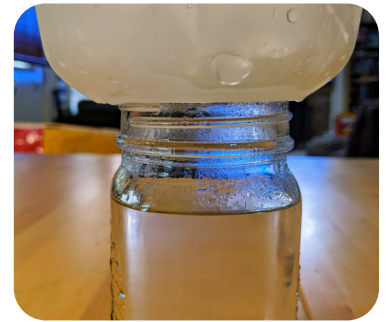
WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Large Glass Jar or Tall Drinking Glass
- Plastic or Paper Bowl
- Ice
- Hot Water

Caution: Be careful with the glass jar or drinking glass. Ask a grownup if they would like to help you.

WHAT YOU'LL DO:

1. Place a large glass jar or tall drinking glass on a flat surface.
2. Fill a small plastic or paper bowl with ice cubes and set it next to the jar.
3. With the help of a parent or other grownup, fill the glass jar with hot water. This can be hot water from the faucet or water that's been heated in the microwave or in a kettle.
4. As you pour the hot water into the jar, notice the steam rising up in the air. This is evaporation, and it occurs whenever water molecules become so hot that they expand and turn into a gas. (Tip: If you don't see steam, then try heating the water a little more.)



5. Place the bowl of ice on top of the glass jar, making sure to cover the mouth of the jar completely.
6. Watch as the heated water molecules rise up in the jar and turn back into liquid water droplets (like clouds do to form rain), collecting on the sides of the jar and on the bottom of the bowl. This is called condensation, and it occurs when gaseous water molecules cool down.
7. As more and more water droplets gather together, they will eventually become heavy and will fall back into the water at the bottom of the jar. This is precipitation and is what happens every time it rains.

Now that you have seen a small version of the water cycle, answer the following:

- How does the bowl of ice represent the atmosphere?
- What happens to the water once it falls?

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