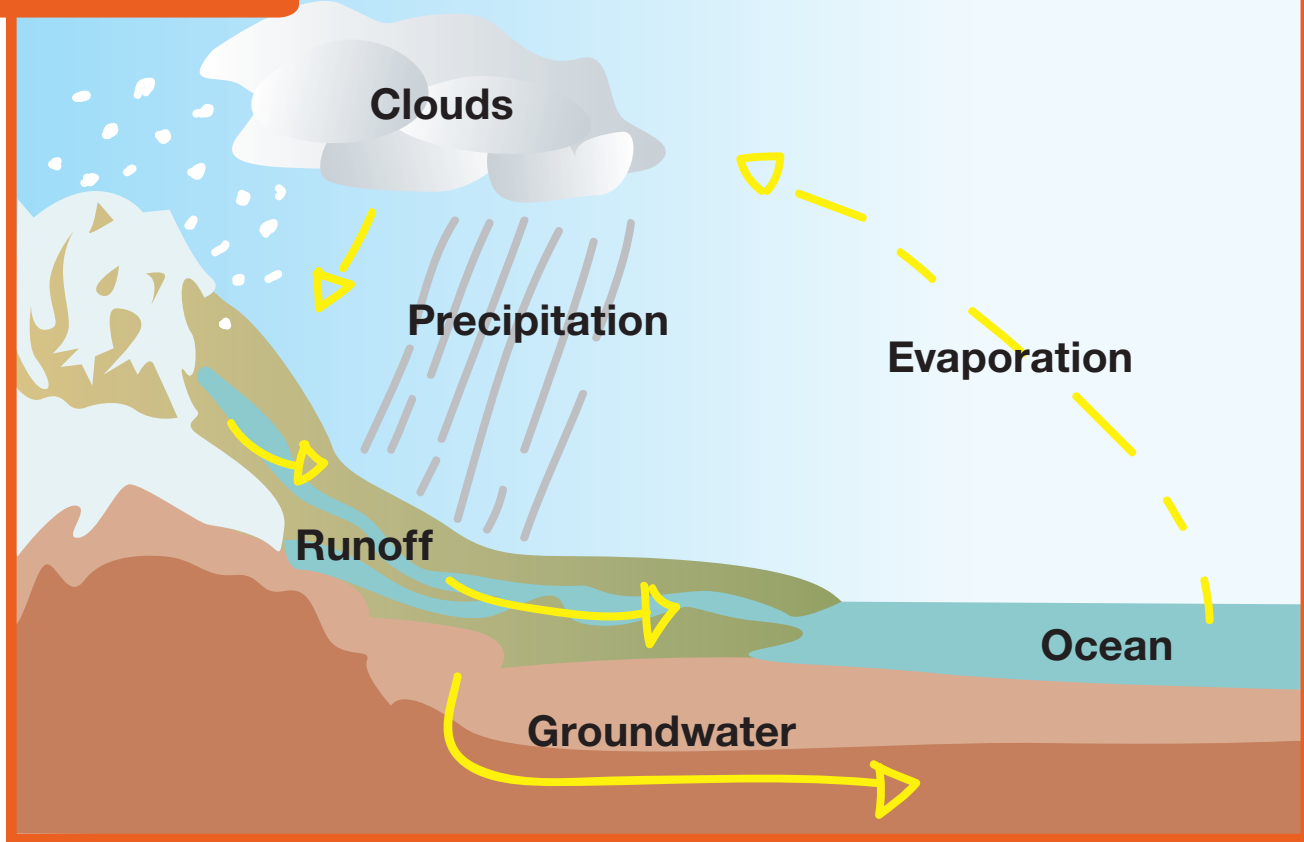


What is Precipitation?

weather science



Ever looked up at clouds on a nice, sunny day? Those big, fluffy, clouds look soft enough to sleep on! However, clouds aren't made of cotton — they're actually made of water!

Much like the way a hot pot of water creates a lot of hot steam, the sun heats up water on the ground. The steam from the hot water on the ground rises into the air in the form of vapor. This cycle is known as **evaporation**.

Clouds form from thousands of water droplets up in the sky. When those droplets group together, they can get so heavy that they fall to the ground in the form of rain, snow, hail, or sleet. Scientists call this **precipitation**.

Now that you've learned all about the water cycle, evaporation, and precipitation, answer the question below.

**Precipitation is any form of water that falls from the sky.
What other kinds of precipitation are there besides rain?**