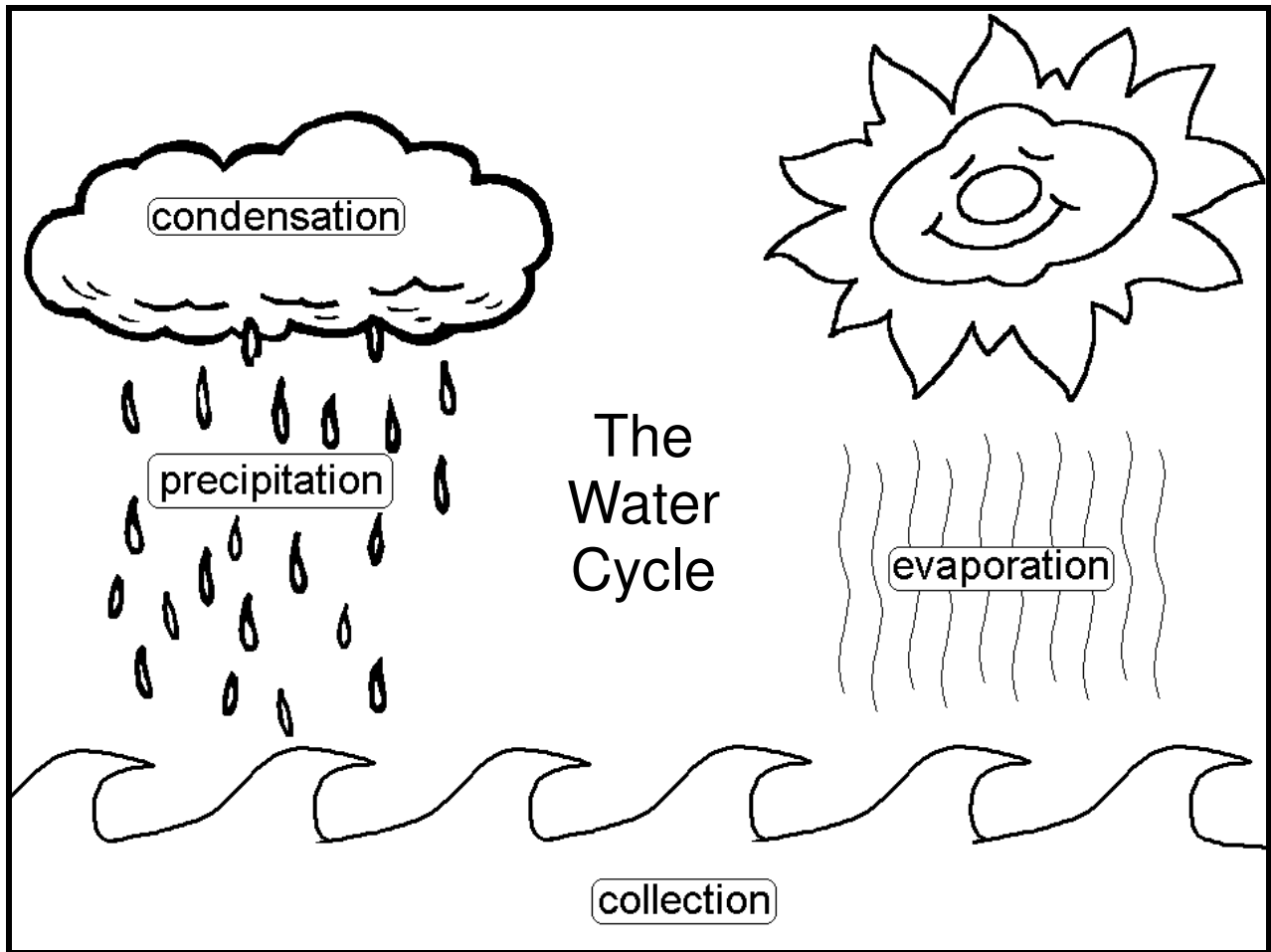


Name: _____



Right now there is as much water on Earth as there was when dinosaurs roamed the planet. How can this be? It's because water never really disappears -- it just goes around and around in the **water cycle**.

Water on the ground is part of a **collection**. This just means water is in one place, like in a lake, river, ocean, or puddle. Color the collection water blue.

When water gets warmed by the sun, it changes into water vapor (also called steam) and rises into the sky. This is known as **evaporation**. Color the sun and the evaporating water yellow.

Once the water vapor is in the sky, it cools off and starts to clump together in clouds. This is called **condensation**. Color the condensation cloud gray and white.

And when conditions are right, the water vapor in the clouds falls back to earth as **precipitation**. This can be rain, snow, sleet, or hail. Color the falling precipitation blue.

And when the precipitation falls back to Earth? It becomes part of a **collection**, and the magic of the water cycle starts all over again.