TEACHER KS3

The Water Cycle

Topics covered

- A review of the water cycle learned at KS2
- Area of local supply
- See also weather and climate sheets

Objectives

- Revise the basic processes of the water cycle
- Understand where local water comes from

Learning outcomes

- Identify the main stages in the water cycle
- Understand how the water cycle works globally
- Be familiar with local features influencing the water cycle
- Understand evaporation and condensation

Activities

- Draw and label the water cycle
- Evaporation
- Condensation

Suggested approach

Before handing out sheets, discuss with pupils:

- How much of earth's water do you think is salty? (ans: more than 97%).
- How much is fresh? (ans: less than 3%).
- Where would you find most of the earth's fresh water? (ans: frozen polar icecaps)
- How much is stored in places where we can use it? (ans: less than 1% stored in the air, rivers, lakes and aquifers)

Look at an Ordnance Survey relief map of your area

Ask pupils:

- to find the local rivers, streams, lakes, sea
- where the rivers/streams start and end
- where does water collect
- where are reservoirs located and why
- where would you expect the most rain to fall? (link to weather & climate)
- where would you expect water to evaporate?

You could also look at:

- where boreholes are located
- where springs are
- local geology - where is impermeable rock