

Geography week 9 - To find out about the water cycle and the distribution of water across the world.

Where does rain come from? Discuss ideas. Explain that all the water in the world rises from the Earth's surface and falls back to the ground in a continuous cycle which is driven by the sun's energy. Tell your child that there is never any more or any less water on the planet, but it is present as either a solid (snow, ice etc.) a liquid (rain, rivers, oceans) or a gas (water vapour).

Show the diagram of the water cycle on the slides. Can you explain what is happening in this diagram? Discuss ideas, then go through the explanation on the slides.

Show children the picture on the slides and explain that the river has completely dried up because it hasn't rained here for months. Why do some places get more rain than others? Discuss and share ideas.

Do you know what a drought is? What do you think causes a drought? Go through the information on the slides about natural and human causes of drought, and the effects of droughts on the environment.

Task:

Create a diagram to show how the water cycle works, then answer the questions about droughts (in photocopied pack or in geography section downloads). You could make a physical diagram of the water cycle outside and photograph it.

Extend:

Carry out some research into droughts. Children to think about why they occur and the effects they have on people and the environment. How would a drought impact on your life?