



All Dried Up



In this lesson, children will conduct a quick experiment on evaporation.

BACKGROUND:

Evaporation is the process by which water changes from a liquid to a gas or vapor. Heat is necessary for evaporation to occur. Energy is used to break the bonds that hold water molecules together, which is why water easily evaporates at the boiling point of 212°. On a global scale, the amount of water evaporating is the about the same as the amount of water delivered to the Earth as precipitation.

MATERIALS:

- Two cups
- Teaspoon
- Water



PROCEDURE:

- Place about 2 teaspoons of water in each cup
- Place one cup in the sunlight
- Place the other cup in the shade
- Have the children observe each cup every 4 hours
- Record what happens to the water
 - Have the students answer the following questions:
 - Where did the water go?
 - From which cup did the water disappear faster?
 - What caused the water to disappear?

CONCLUSION:

Discuss your results as a family and see what you can do with this information. How can you prevent evaporation or water loss outdoors?



The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department has partnered with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District to bring you a series of virtual lessons and activity write ups on water education and conservation.

