5

Science Standard 5.3.b.

Dictionary

California Education and the Environment Initiative

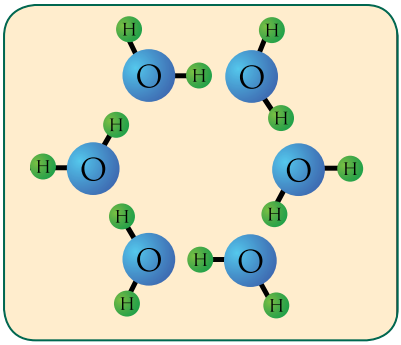
Changing States: Water, Natural Systems, and Human Communities

Dictionary

C

cohesion

The attraction between like molecules that holds them together.



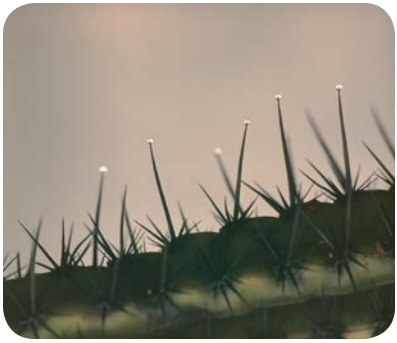
condensation

The process by which a gas changes to a liquid.

D

dew

Water vapor that has condensed out of the air onto cooler surfaces.



dew point

The air temperature at which water vapor condenses.

evaporation

The process by which a liquid changes to a gas.

E

frost

Ice crystals that form on objects when water vapor turns to a solid.

F

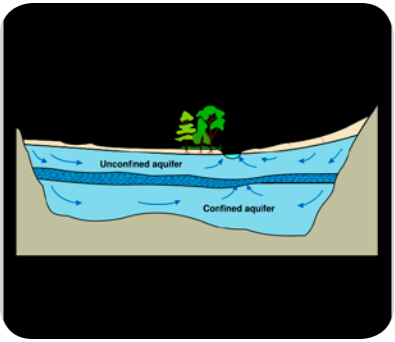
frost point

The temperature at which the dew point falls below freezing and water vapor changes to frost.

G

groundwater

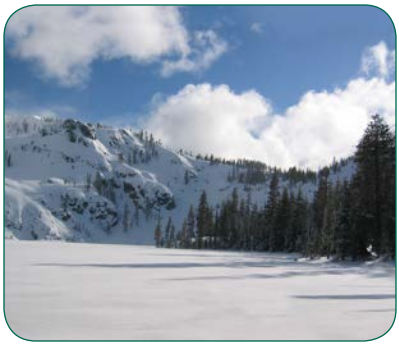
Water in underground streams and aquifers (layers of rock and soil) beneath Earth's surface.



H

humidity

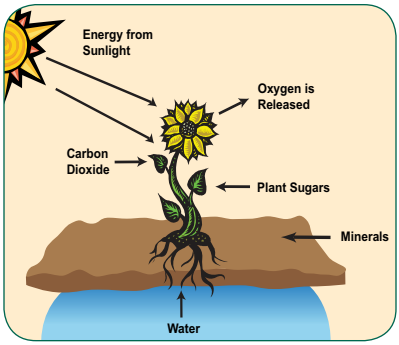
The amount of water vapor in the air.



ice

Frozen water.

I



photosynthesis

The process by which plants and algae convert light energy to chemical energy.

P

precipitation

Water that falls from clouds to Earth as rain, mist, hail, sleet, ice, or snow.

R

rate

The amount of something measured per unit of time, such as miles per hour.

reservoir

A lake or other storage area where water is collected and kept for future use.

runoff

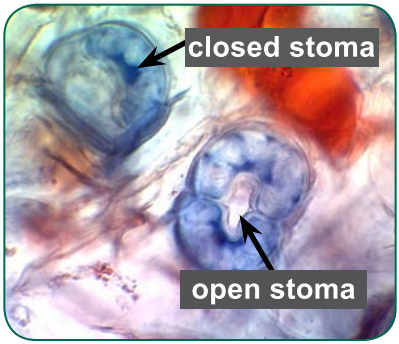
Water that flows over the ground and into streams and rivers.

saturated air

The point at which air cannot hold more water vapor.

snowpack

The total amount of snow or ice on the ground.



stomata

Small openings or pores on a plant leaf through which gases move.

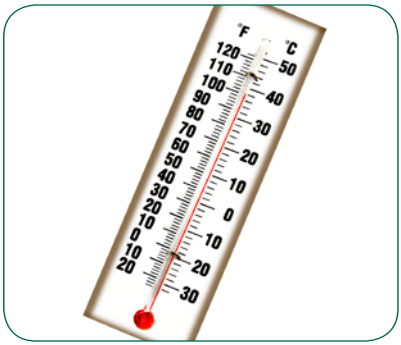
surface area

The size of the area that something covers.

T

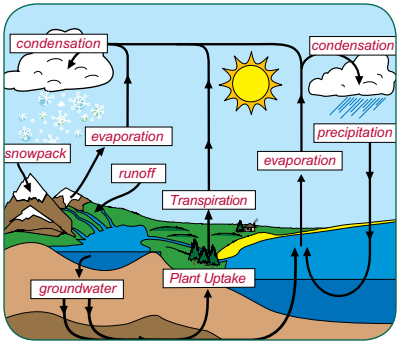
temperature

The measure of how fast atoms and molecules move in something, such as air or water.



transpiration

The release of water through pores in skin, leaves, and other parts of plants and animals.



water cycle

The continuous movement of water between the atmosphere and Earth.

water vapor

Water in the form of a gas.

Unit Title: **Changing States: Water, Natural Systems, and Human Communities**
Grade: **5**

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California Education and the Environment Initiative

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