

Make it Rain



What you need:

- Glass jar
- Ceramic plate
- Hot water (parental guidance with this part)
- 4 ice cubes

Instructions:

- Pour 2 centimeters of the hot water into the glass jar.
- Cover the jar with the ceramic plate face up.
- Wait 3 minutes to continue to the next step.
- Put ice cubes on the plate.
- Observe your homemade water cycle.



What happens and why:

What happens? The cold plate causes the moisture in the warm air, which is inside the jar to condense and form water droplets. This is the same thing that happens in the atmosphere. Warm, moist air rises and meets colder air high in the atmosphere. The water vapor condenses and forms precipitation that falls to the ground.

Extra Experiments:

1. Do two separate experiments at the same time. Have all the variables controlled except for the temperature of the water. Have one hot and one cold. How does it affect the experiment?
2. Try using a paper plate instead of a ceramic plate. Which one worked better? Could the results have anything to do with absorption? Or not?
3. Now think on a bigger scale, the world scale. Draw a picture of your experiment, but draw it to reflect what happens in the world's water cycle.