

Water Movement in a Catchment

Read the text below. Add the words in bold to the outline Worksheet 1.1b – The Water Cycle in a Catchment diagram to show how water moves through this catchment.

Water is the linking factor in a catchment area. The sun's energy evaporates water from the ocean as water vapour in the atmosphere. This process of **evaporation** also takes place on land. Plants add water vapour to the atmosphere through **transpiration**. The water vapour condenses to **precipitation**, which may fall as rain, snow, sleet or hail. Some precipitation evaporates while falling and returns to the atmosphere. Most precipitation soaks into the soil (**infiltration**). Some of the soaked water returns to the surface and is evaporated. Part of it soaks into the soil as groundwater. Any excess water runs off the land and is carried away by streams and rivers (surface **runoff**).



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