My sixth grade science class is currently studying the water cycle. We learned that there are four steps in the cycle:

Evaporation

During evaporation, sun heats up water in lakes, rivers, or oceans and turns it into vapor or steam.

The vapor or steam then enters the atmosphere.

Condensation

During condensation, water vapor in the air cools.

As it cools, it turns back into liquid, forming clouds.

Precipitation

During precipitation, the condensed liquid becomes too heavy for the air.

Water falls back to Earth in the form of rain, sleet, snow, and hail.

Runoff and Groundwater

Some of the precipitation runs off along the surface of the ground.

Some soaks into the soil to become groundwater.

Because of the water cycle, Earth constantly recycles the same water to be used over and over again. Our teacher told us that this cycle has been going on for millions of years and that the amount of water on Earth has remained fairly constant over that entire time. If this is so, why should we conserve water? Isn’t all of the water on Earth eventually reused as part of the water cycle, whatever we do with it?

Thank you for taking the time to help me with these questions. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your School Name

Address

City, State ZIP