Comprehension
Earth's Water Supply

Fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

1. The three elements of the water cycle are ______.
   A conservation, desalination, reclamation
   B evaporation, condensation, precipitation
   C groundwater, rain water, surface water
   D water vapor, water table, watershed

2. People store water for future use in a(n) ______.
   A reservoir
   B oasis
   C aquifer
   D aqueduct

3. Which of these does not reduce our water supply?
   A growing population
   B contamination
   C drought
   D desalination

4. We measure the amount of water vapor in the air as ______.
   A gas
   B humidity
   C clouds
   D fog

5. Where is the most fresh water found on Earth?
   A rivers
   B oceans
   C ice
   D groundwater

6. Many deserts are formed by a(n) ______.
   A aquifer
   B watershed
   C oasis
   D rain shadow

7. Which of these is not an example of precipitation?
   A rain
   B snow
   C hail
   D fog
Write the vocabulary word that answers or completes each clue.

1. Evaporated water turns into this. _______________________

2. Rain that has soaked into the ground _______________________

3. When prevailing winds change direction, they bring _______________________

4. The side of a mountain that receives little rainfall is in the _______________________

5. The measure of moisture in the air _______________________

6. A natural water source in the desert _______________________

7. A long period without rainfall _______________________

8. If a rock has many small holes, it is _______________________

9. Rivers, lakes, and streams _______________________

10. The recycling of used water _______________________

11. A way to water plants or crops _______________________

12. A region drained by river systems _______________________

13. A synonym for pollute _______________________

14. The act of saving something for later _______________________

15. When all the ground below you is saturated, you have reached the top of the _______________________

16. People drill into the ________________________ to make a well.

17. Removing salt from seawater is called _______________________

18. Evaporation, condensation, and precipitation _______________________

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This diagram shows how water from the ocean affects the land nearby. Label each element, using the words in the box. Then write a caption describing what happens to the land on each side of the mountain.

- condensation
- evaporation
- watershed
- desert
- precipitation
- rain shadow
- prevailing winds
See the water cycle at work in this simple experiment using water, soil, and the power of the sun.

**What You Need**
- 1 plastic container
- 1 plastic cup
- small rock
- plastic wrap
- wide tape
- 4 cups of soil or sand
- ½ cup water

1. Pour the soil into the plastic container and spread it around evenly. Then place the plastic cup in the middle of the container, partially in the soil for stability.

2. Pour the water evenly over the soil, but not in the cup.

3. Cover the container with plastic wrap and seal it around the edges with tape. Place the rock on top of the wrap, centered directly over the cup.

4. Place the container in a sunny location. Check on it the following day.

**What Did You Discover?**

1. What happened to the water?

2. How much water did you end up with in the cup?

3. Why do you think you put the rock over the cup?

4. Do you think this experiment would work on a cloudy day? Explain your answer.