

Making Water Disappear

Science Concepts: States of Matter, Evaporation, Water Cycle

After Sydney and Symon saved their flowers, they kept on wondering about water. They had so many questions. They thought of all kinds of water activities, including some tricks. “Betcha I can make water disappear,” announced Symon. “No way,” said Sydney. “That’s impossible.” “Oh yeah?” replied Symon. “I’ll prove it! But it will take a few days.”

Here’s how you can do the same trick as Symon.

1. Fill two identical drinking glasses with room temperature water. Mark the water level with a piece of masking tape.
2. Place one glass in a warm, sunny window or under a lamp that is turned on. Put the other glass in the refrigerator. Do you think that water in one of the glasses will really disappear? If so, write down your prediction in your Wonder Journal.
3. Now fill out the table on page 41.



4. For the next week, compare the water levels in the two glasses every day. Draw and write about everything you notice in your Wonder Journal. Was your prediction right? Can you explain why?

Day	Refrigerator: I Noticed That ...	Sunny window: I Noticed That ...
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

- ANSWERS AND EXPLANATIONS -

Water Cycle Wonders

Heat from the sun will warm the soil and air in the bag and cause the water to evaporate. When water vapor comes into contact with the plastic bag, it will condense and turn back into liquid water. Tapping the bag will make the water droplets roll down the sides of the bag and go back into the soil, like precipitation.

Make Your Own Cloud

A cloud forms in the sky when warm, humid air comes into contact with cool air, and that's exactly what happens in this experiment. The hot water at the bottom of the jar heats the air above it. Some of the hot water evaporates into the air. The air at the top of the jar is cooled by the ice. When the warm air and cool air meet, water vapor condenses into tiny water droplets and forms a cloud—right there in the jar.

Making Water Disappear

Over time, some of the water in the glass placed in the sunny window or under the lamp should seem to disappear. Heat causes the water to evaporate into the air. Because water vapor is an invisible gas, the water will seem to disappear.

Find Out More

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