Handout 1 (pink)
The Water Cycle

The Water Cycle

Standard 4 Objective 1 Indicators a, b, and c

1. What question has puzzled people for centuries?

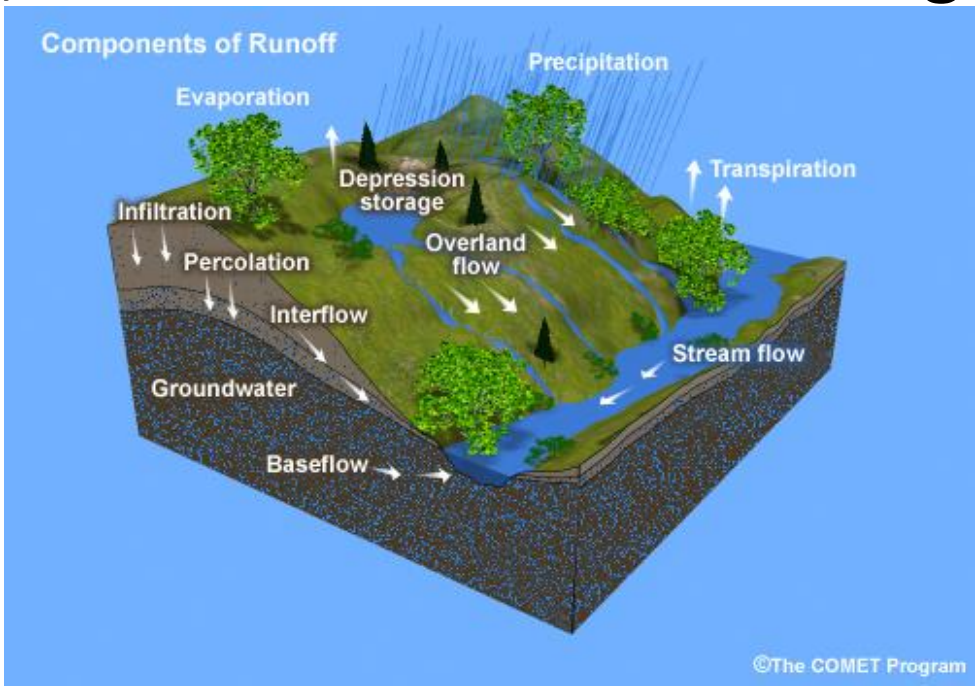
- The origin of Earth's water supply

2. Once people were able to measure the amount of water that falls to Earth, what did they discover?

- Up to five times as much water falls to Earth as the rivers carry off.

3. Once people had learned how much water falls to Earth, what more puzzling question remained?

- Instead of wondering where all the water comes from, the more puzzling question became, where does all the water go.

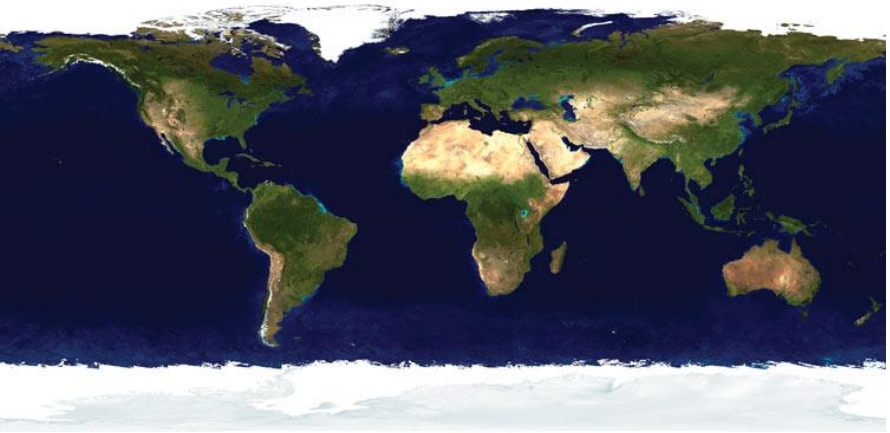


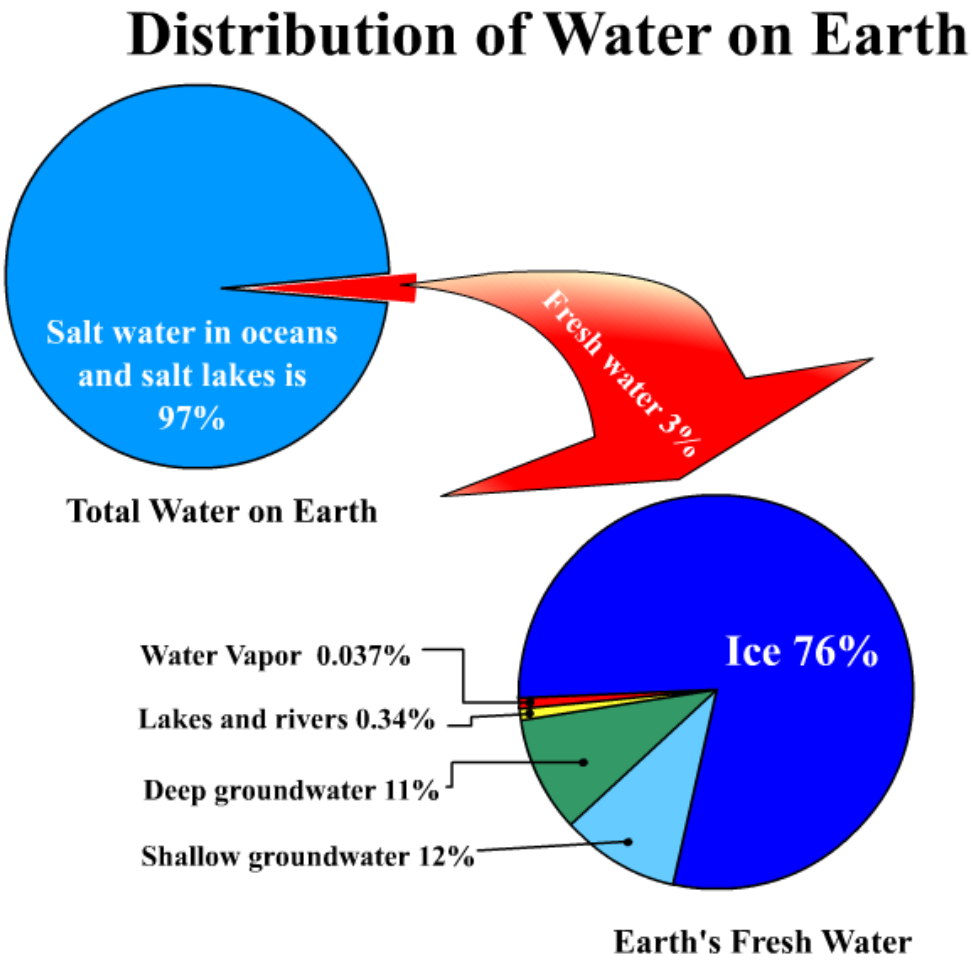
4. What is essential for humans and all other organisms?

- c. water

5. How much of Earth's surface is covered with water?

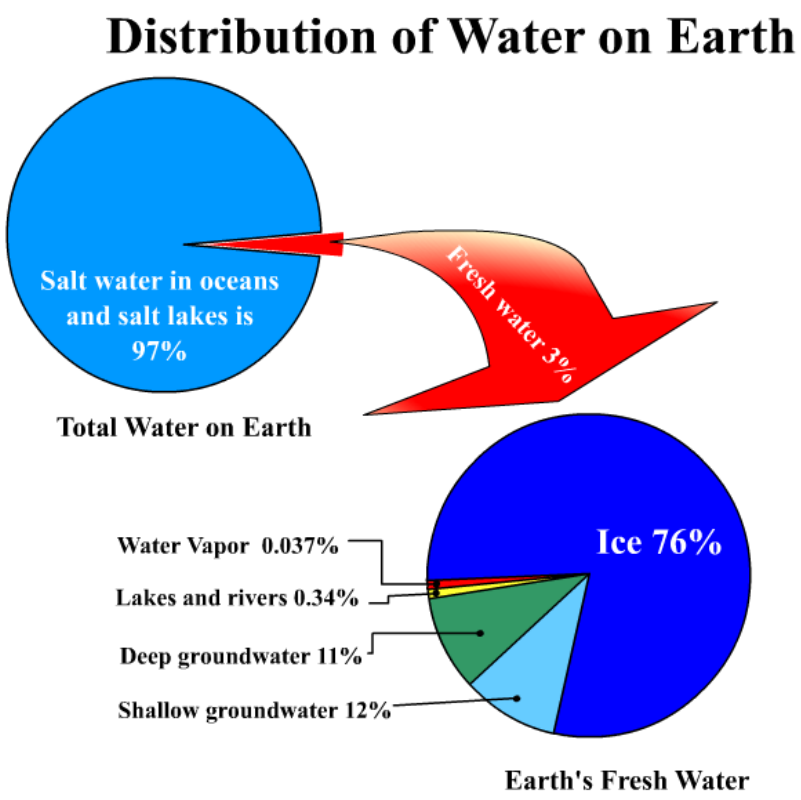
- c. more than two-thirds





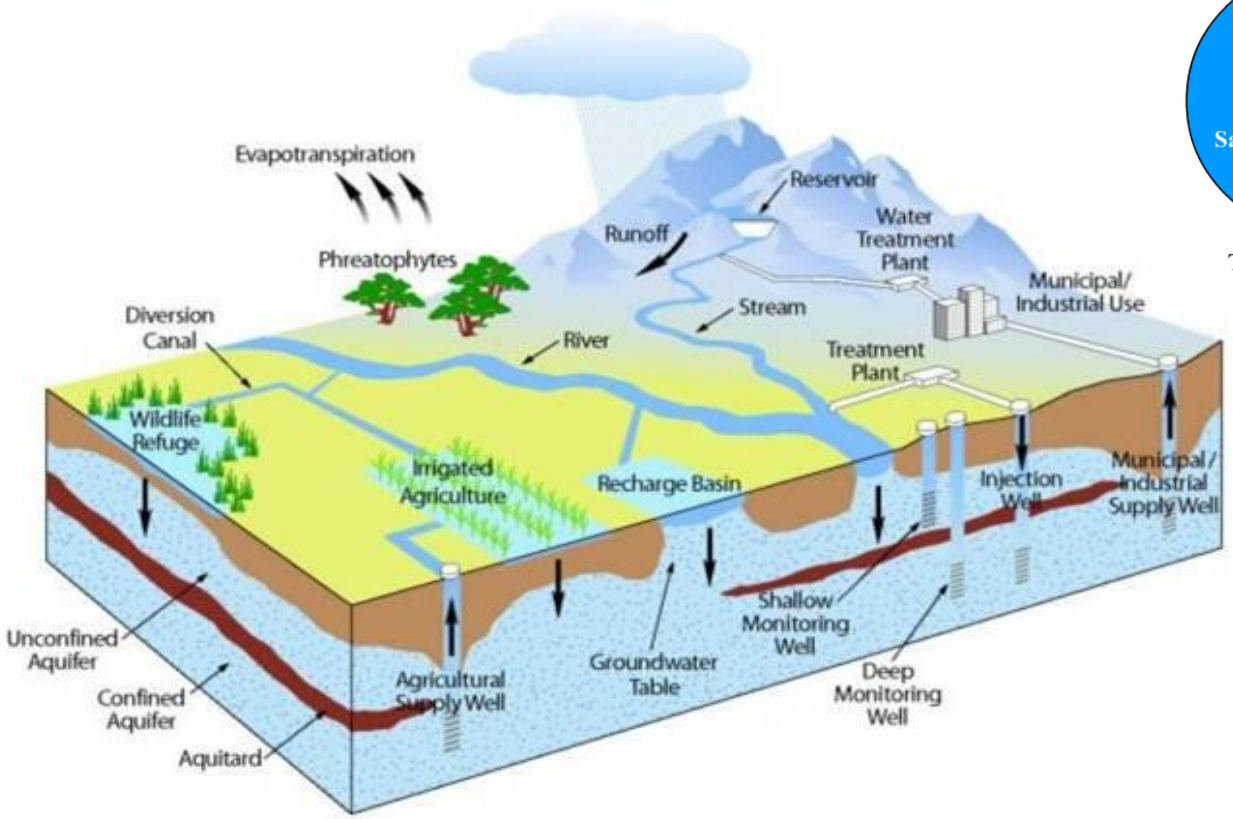
6. Where is Earth's surface water NOT found?

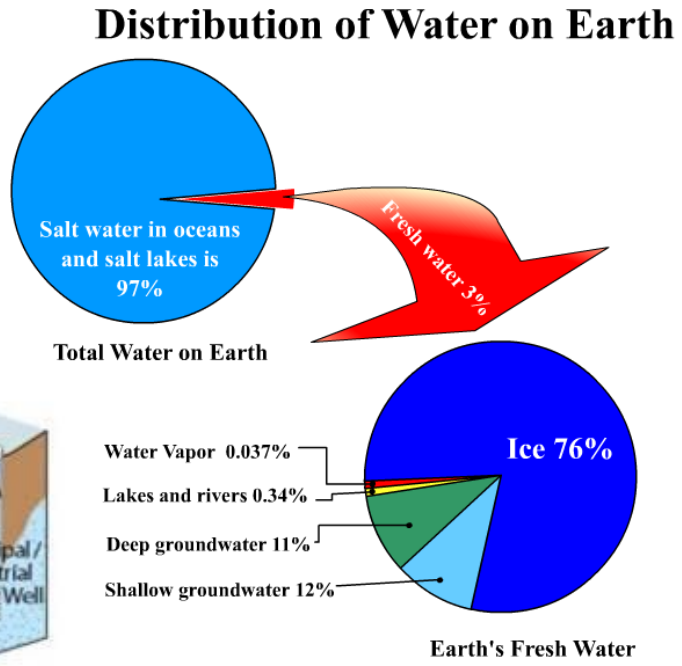
- d. in the atmosphere



7. Groundwater is water that

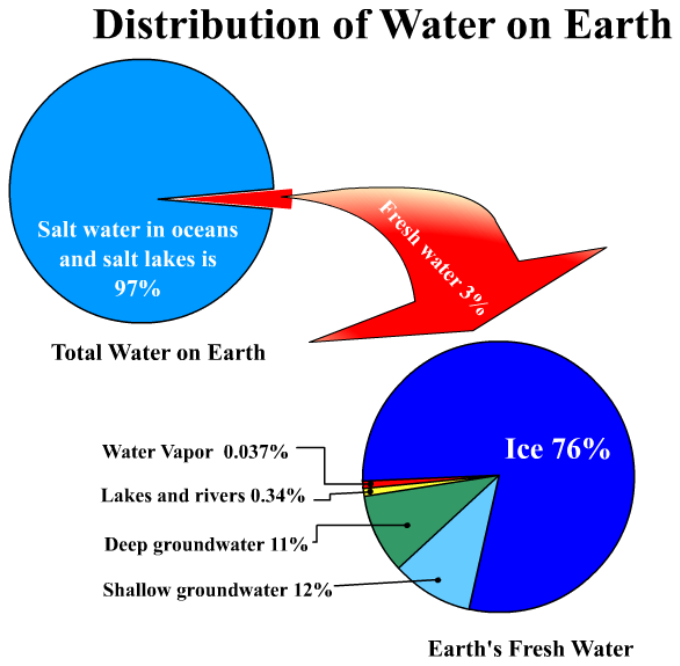
- a. flows through the rock below Earth's surface.





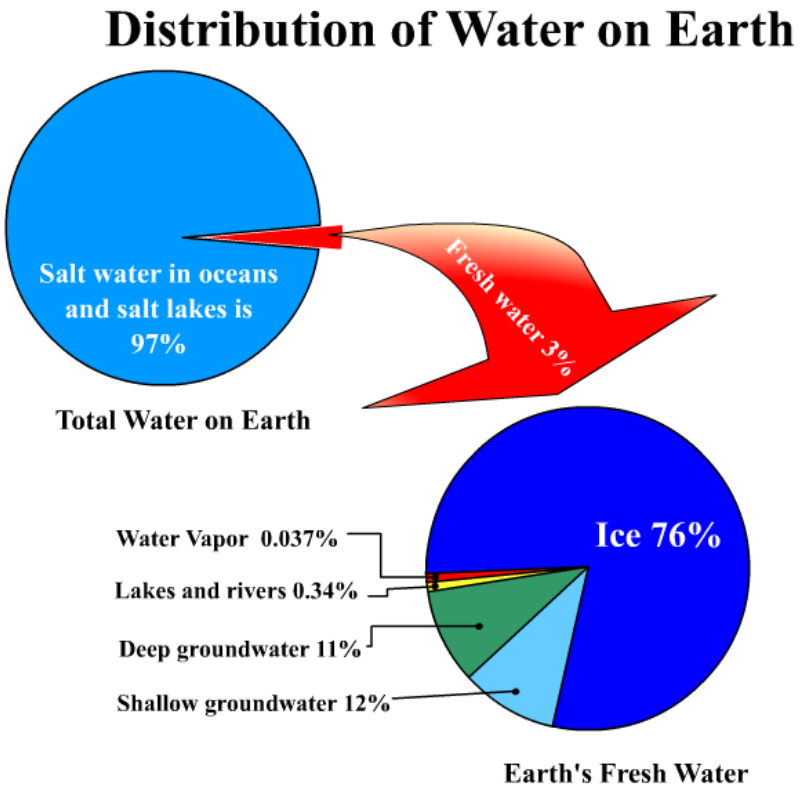
8. Water occurring as an invisible gas is called

- a. water vapor.



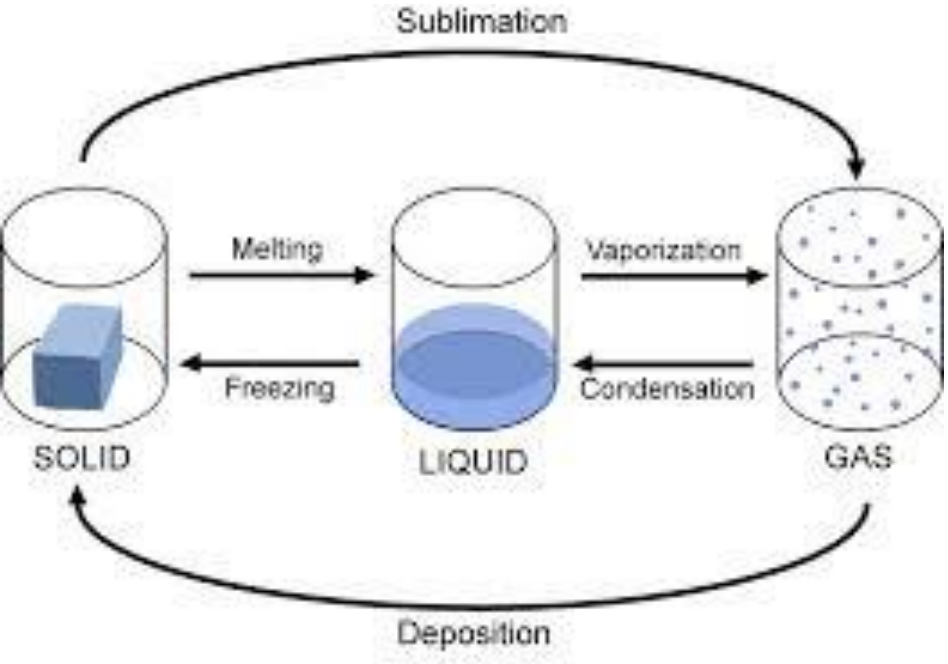
9. Where is water vapor found?

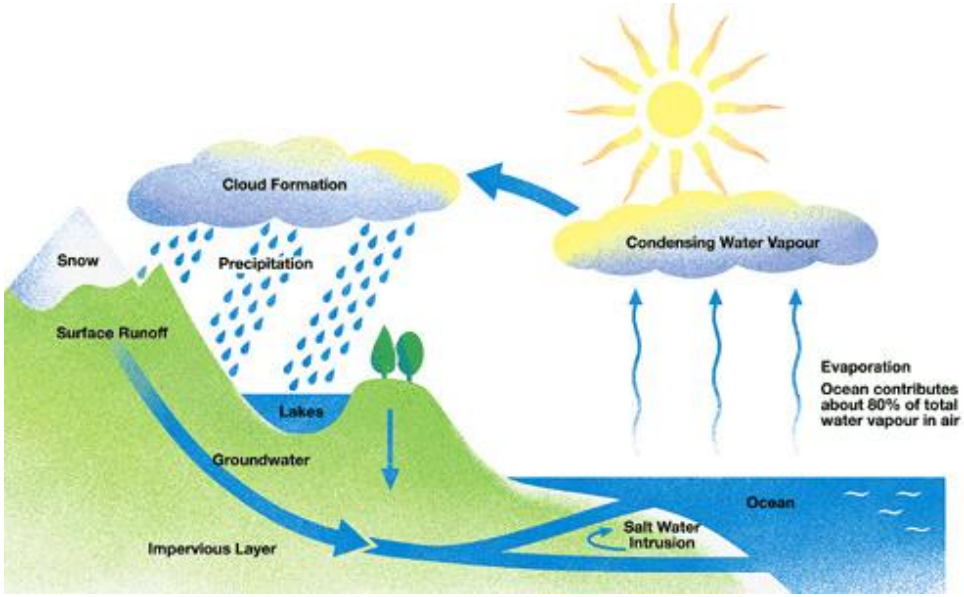
- d. in the atmosphere



10. What is always happening to Earth's water?

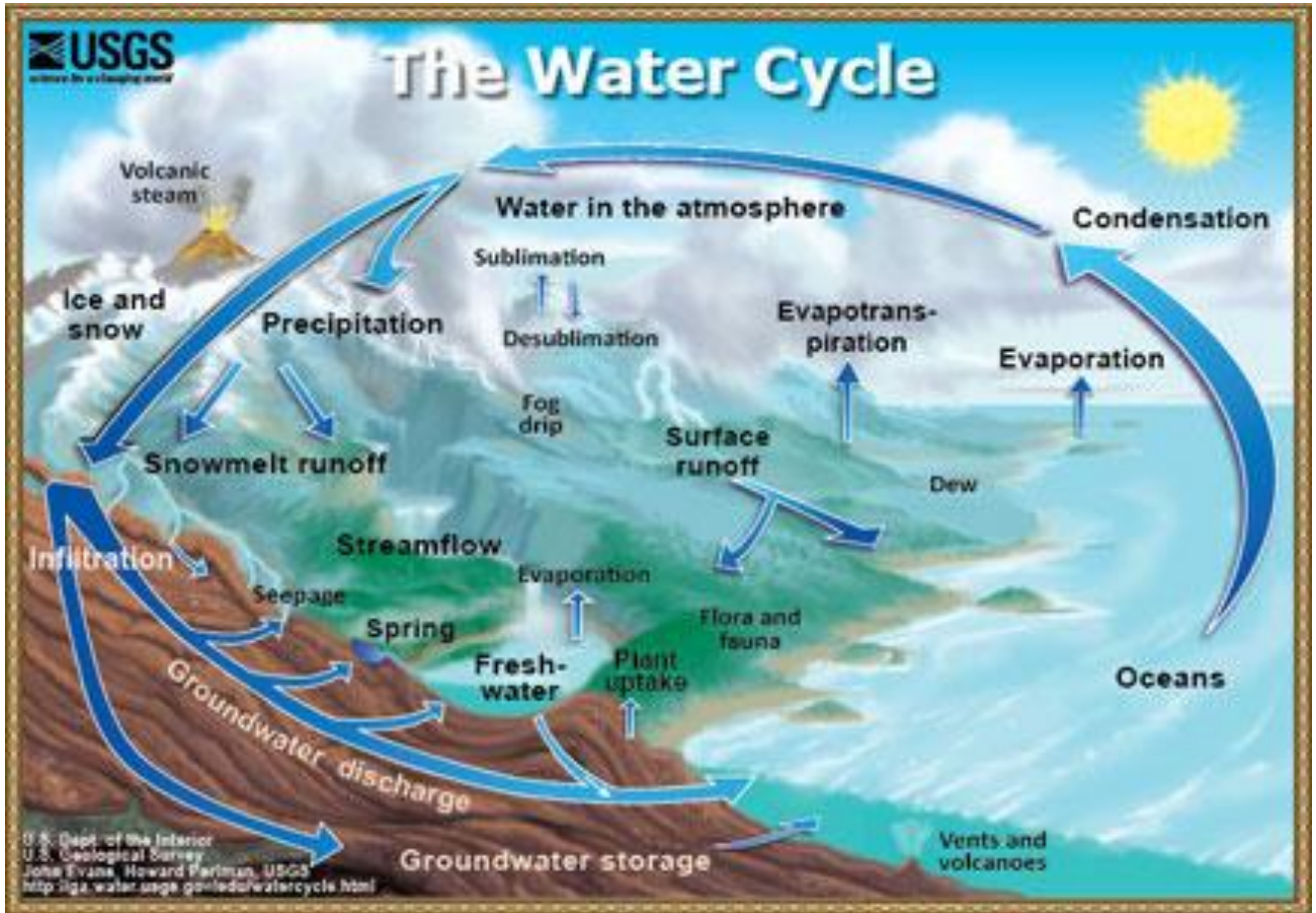
- d. It is constantly changing from one form to another.





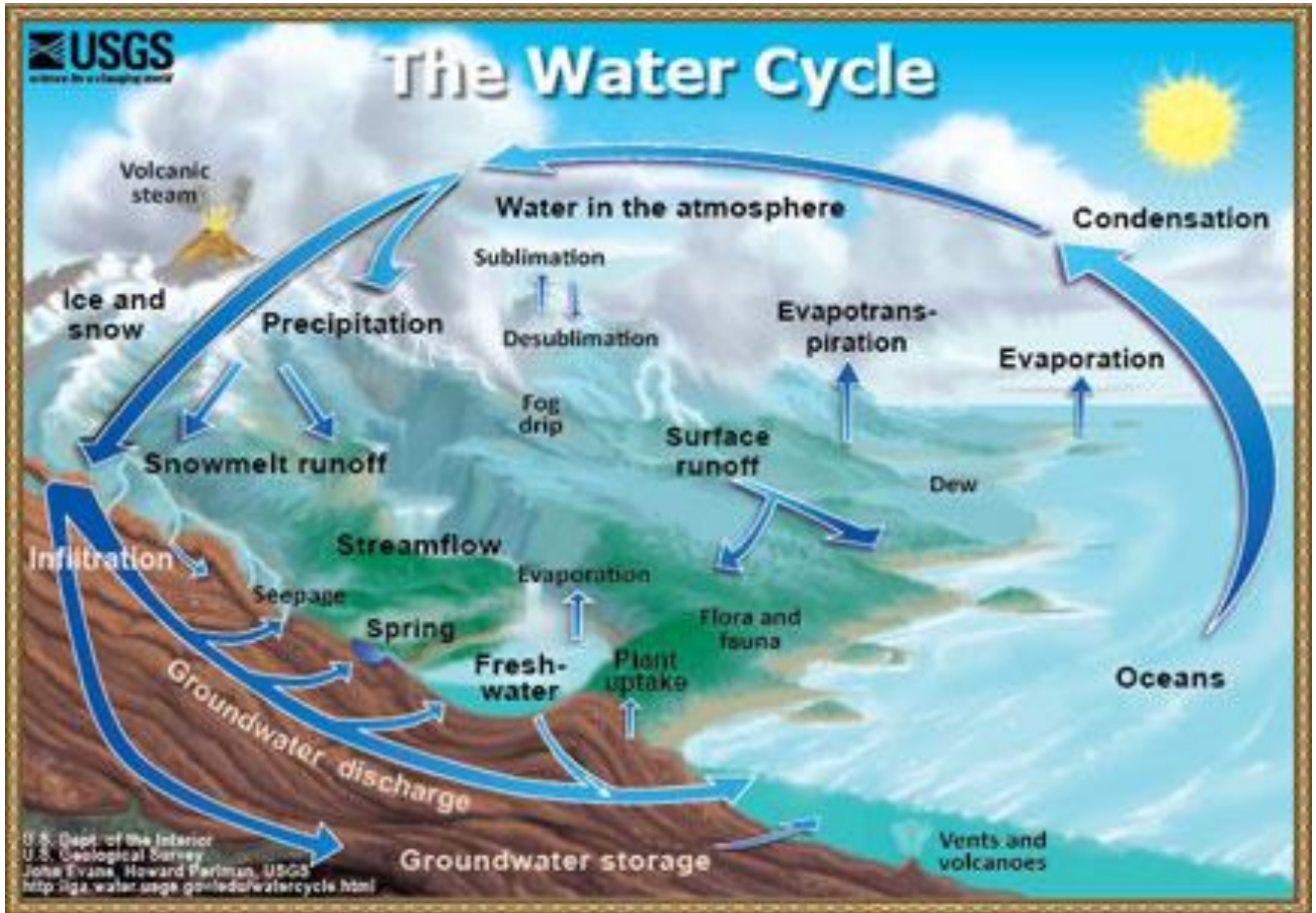
11. What is the continuous movement of water from the atmosphere to the land and oceans and back

- b. the water cycle



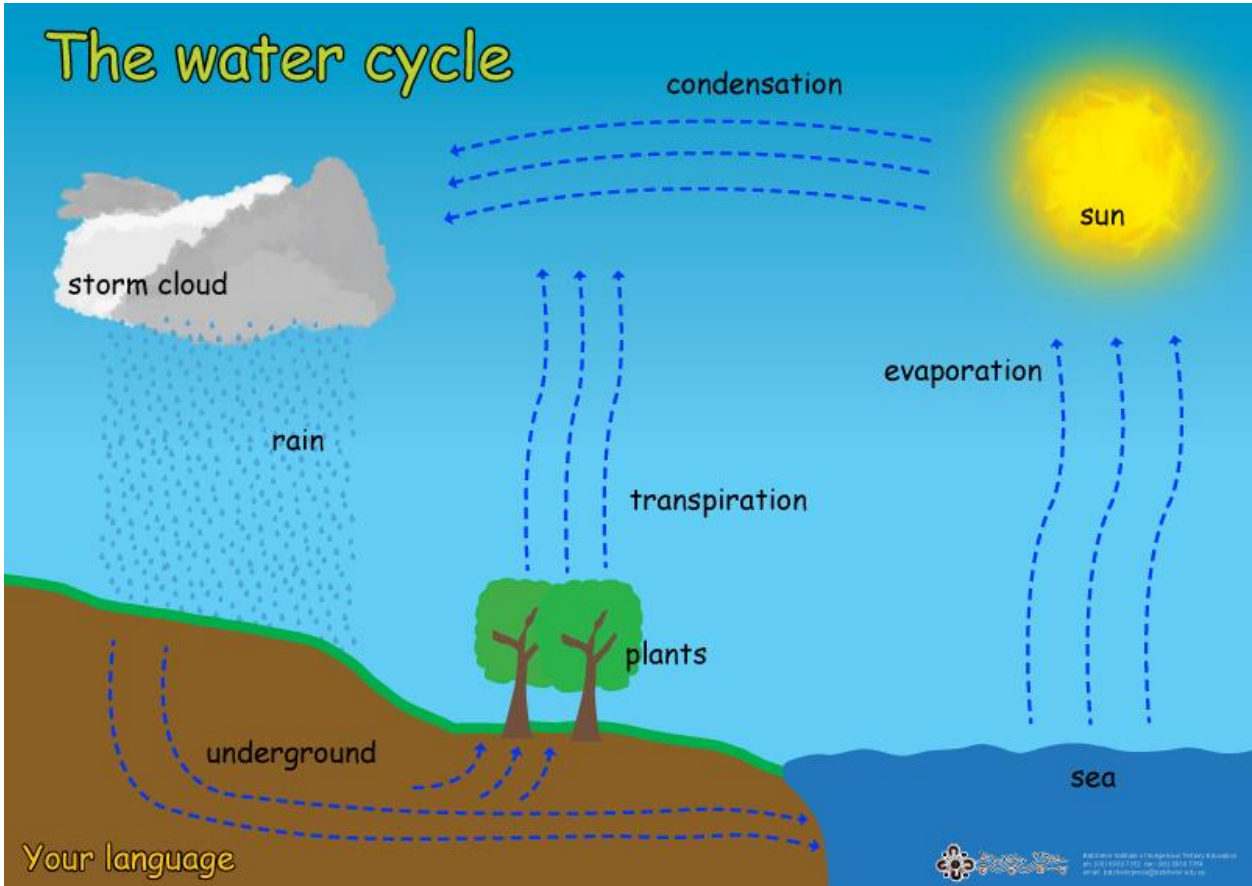
12. By what process does liquid water change into water vapor?

- a. evaporation



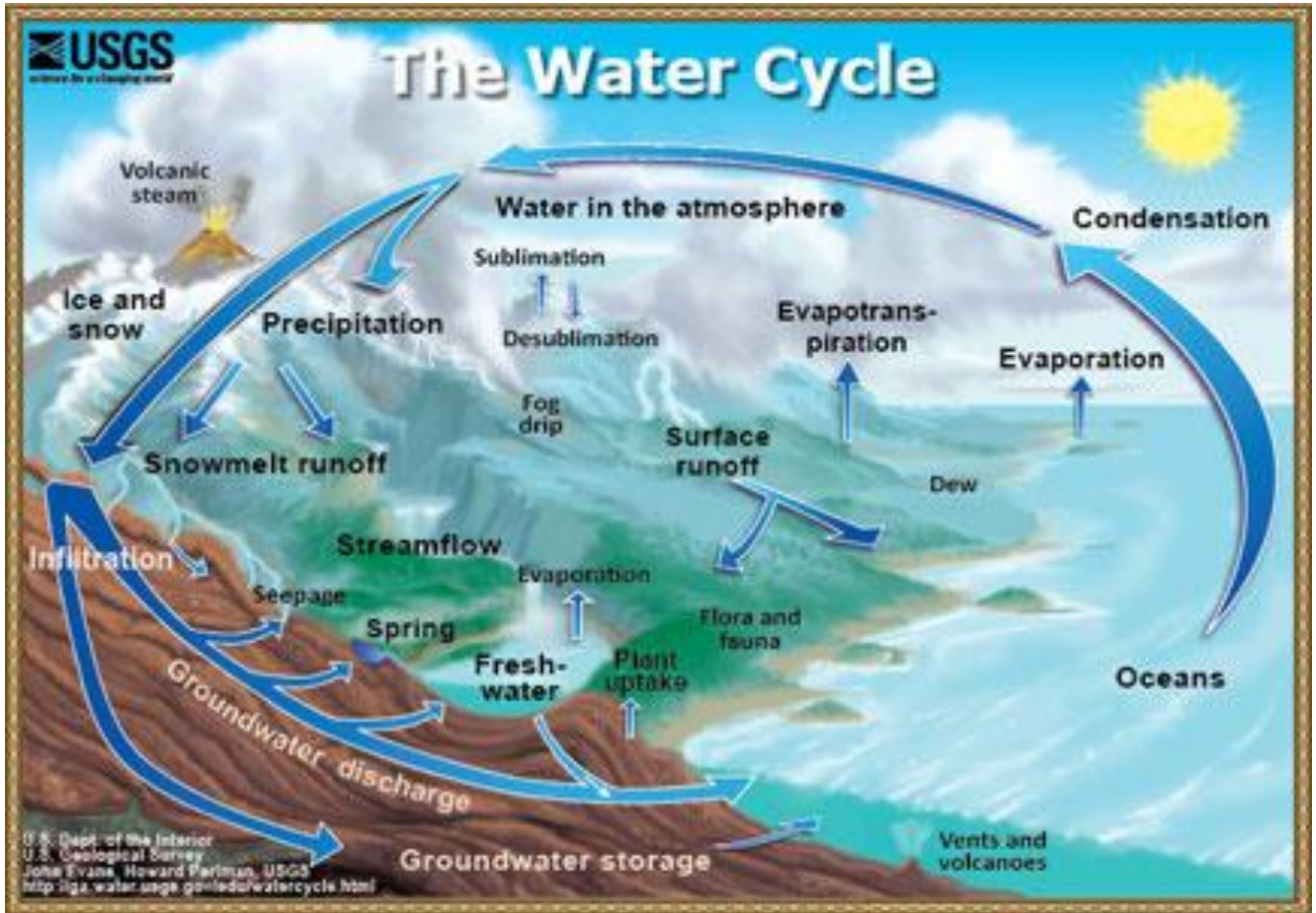
13. What is the process by which plants and animals release water into the atmosphere?

- b. transpiration



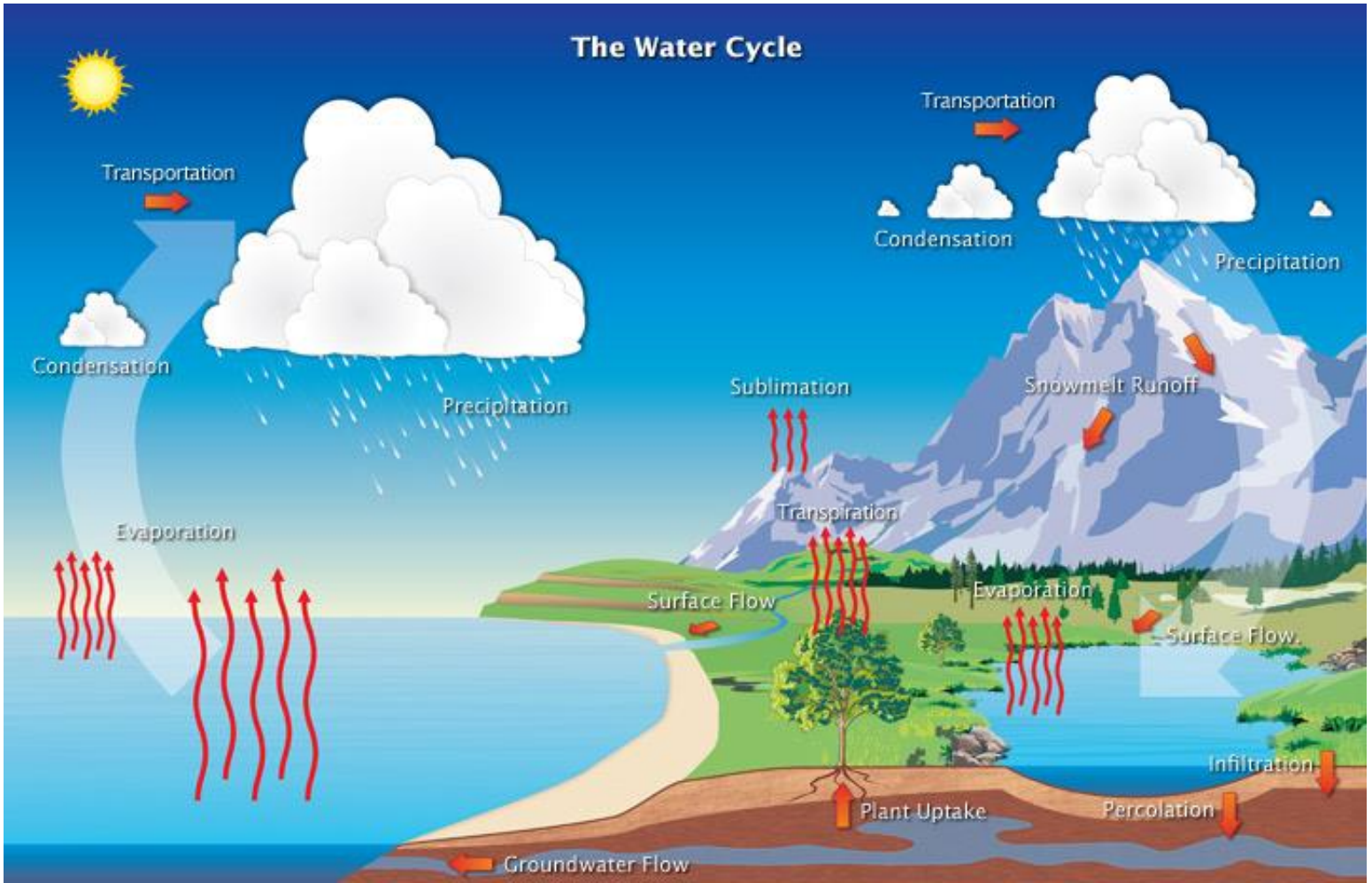
14. In what part of the water cycle does water change from a gas to a liquid?

- d. condensation



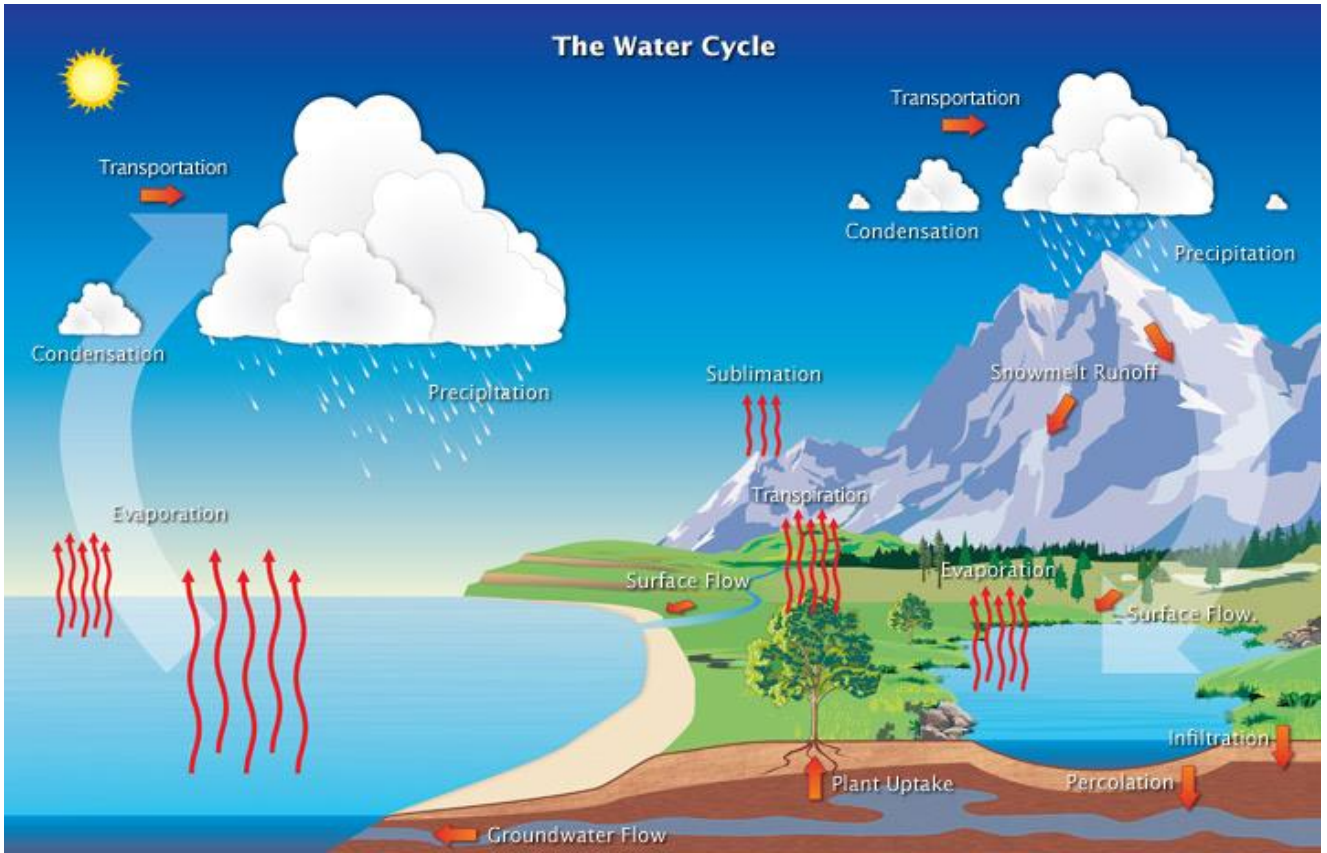
15. When water vapor rises in the atmosphere, it

- a. expands, cools, and condenses.



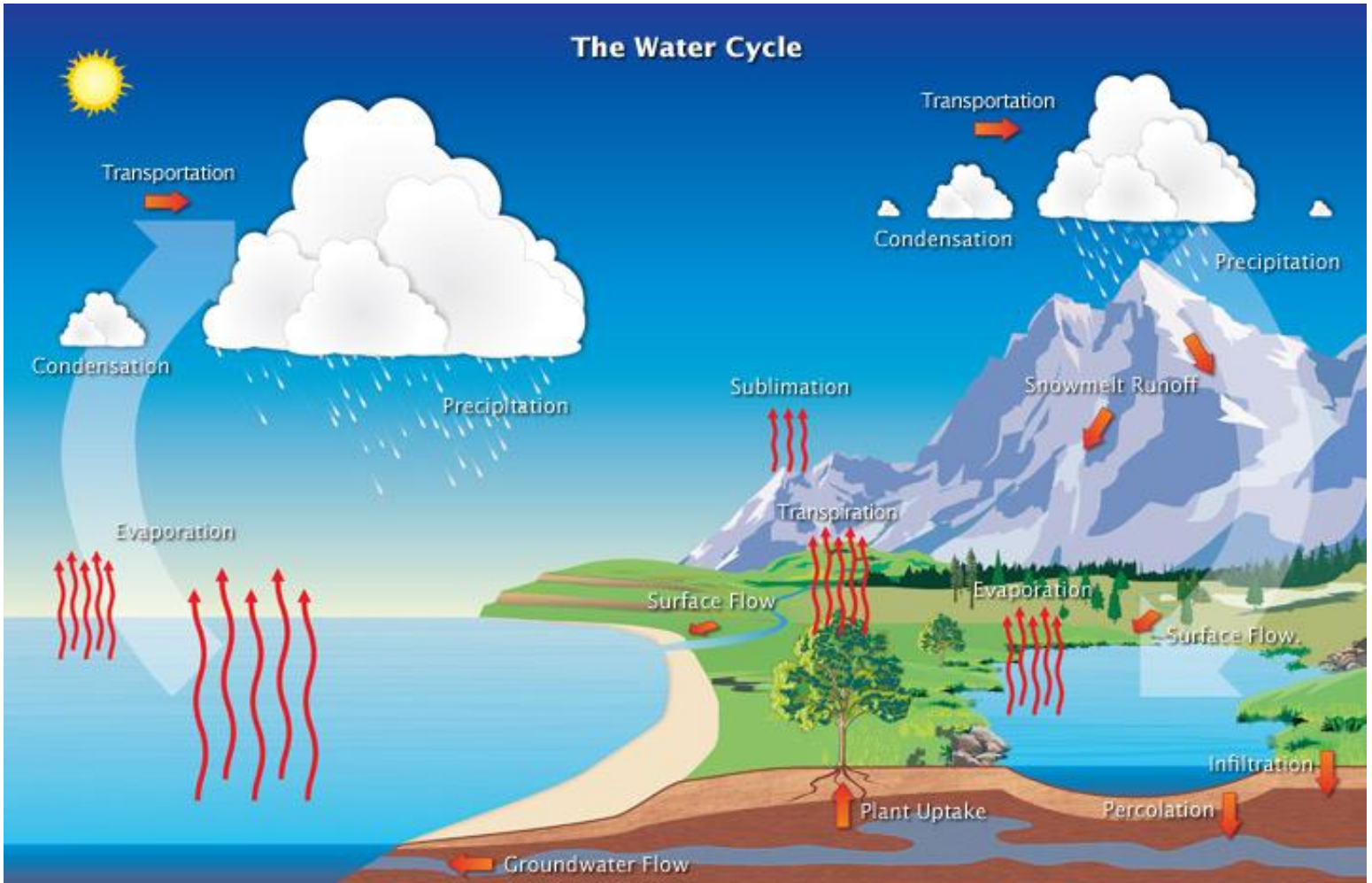
16. When water vapor cools and condenses into tiny droplets in the atmosphere, what do they form?

- c. clouds



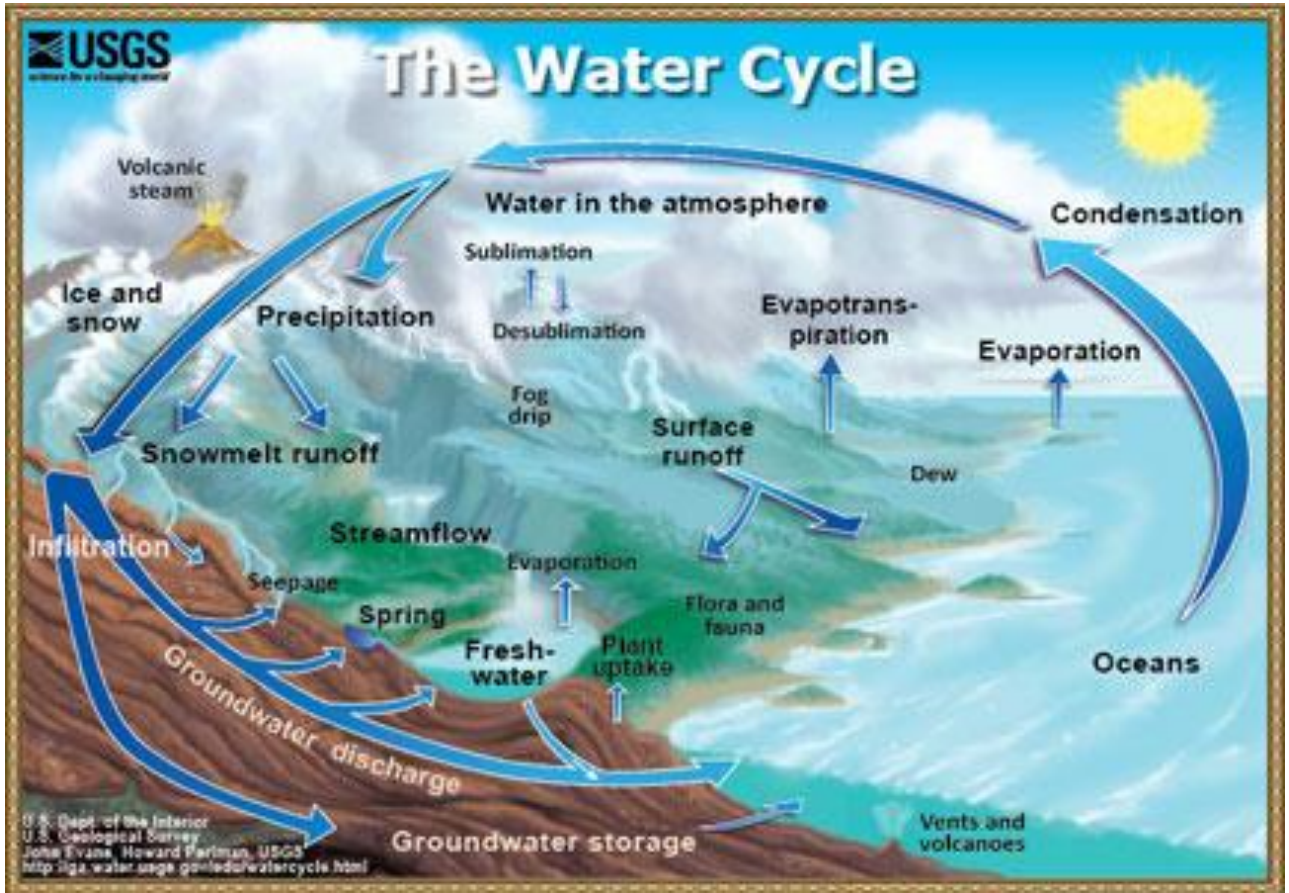
17. What is any form of water that falls to Earth's surface from the clouds?

- d. precipitation



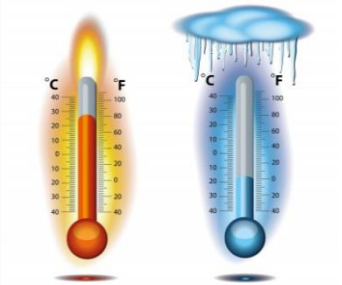
18. What is the continuous cycle of evapotranspiration, condensation, and precipitation?

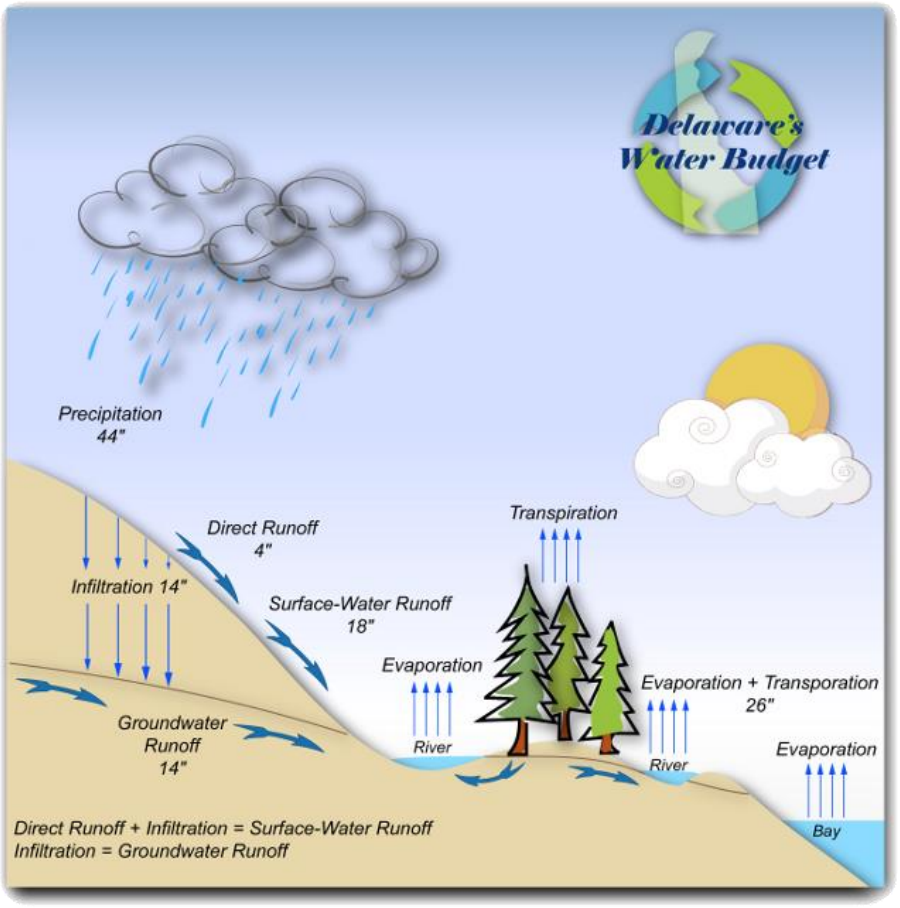
- b. Earth's water budget



19. Which of the following factors affect the local water budget?

- b. temperature, vegetation, wind, and rainfall





20. What occurs when precipitation exceeds evapotranspiration and runoff in an area?

- c. moist soil and possible flooding

21. How does vegetation affect the water budget in an area?

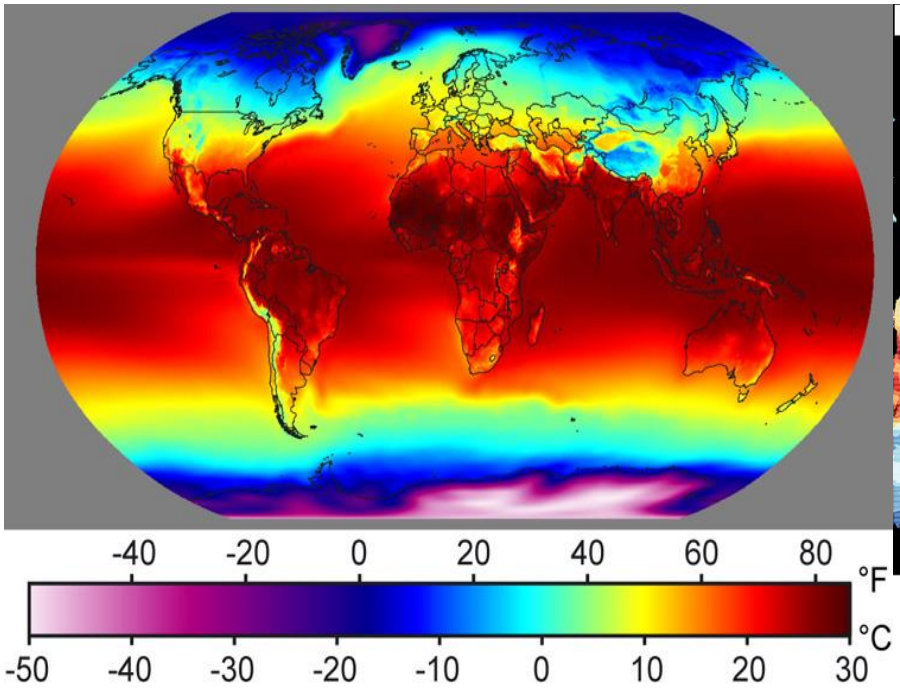
- a. Vegetation reduces runoff but increases evapotranspiration.

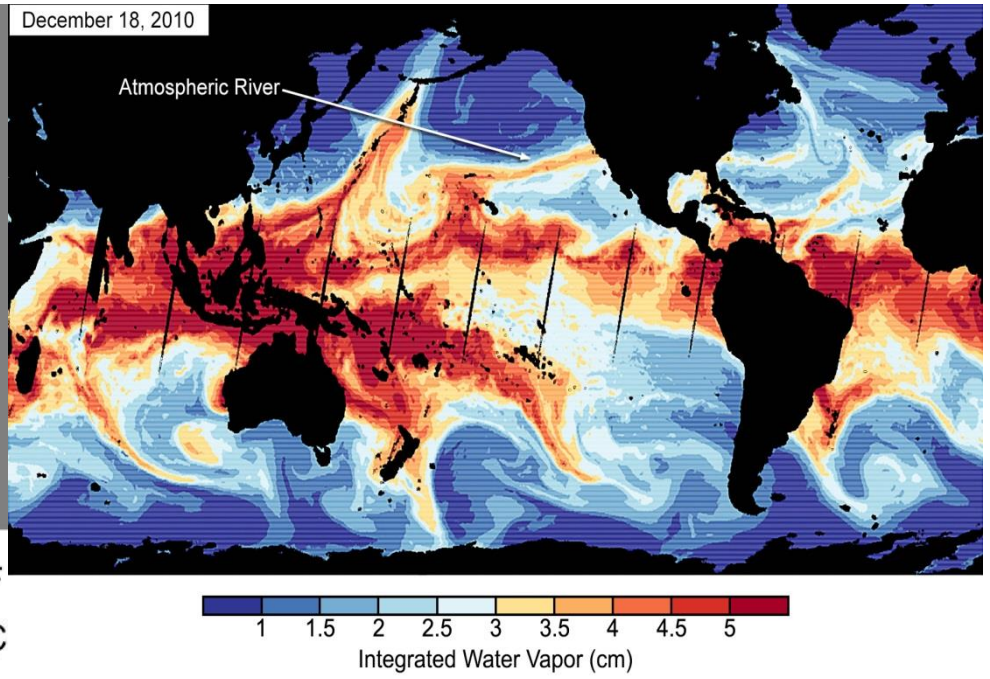
22. How does precipitation in a desert compare with precipitation in a tropical rain forest?

- b. It is much less.

23. What happens to the rate of evapotranspiration in warmer months?

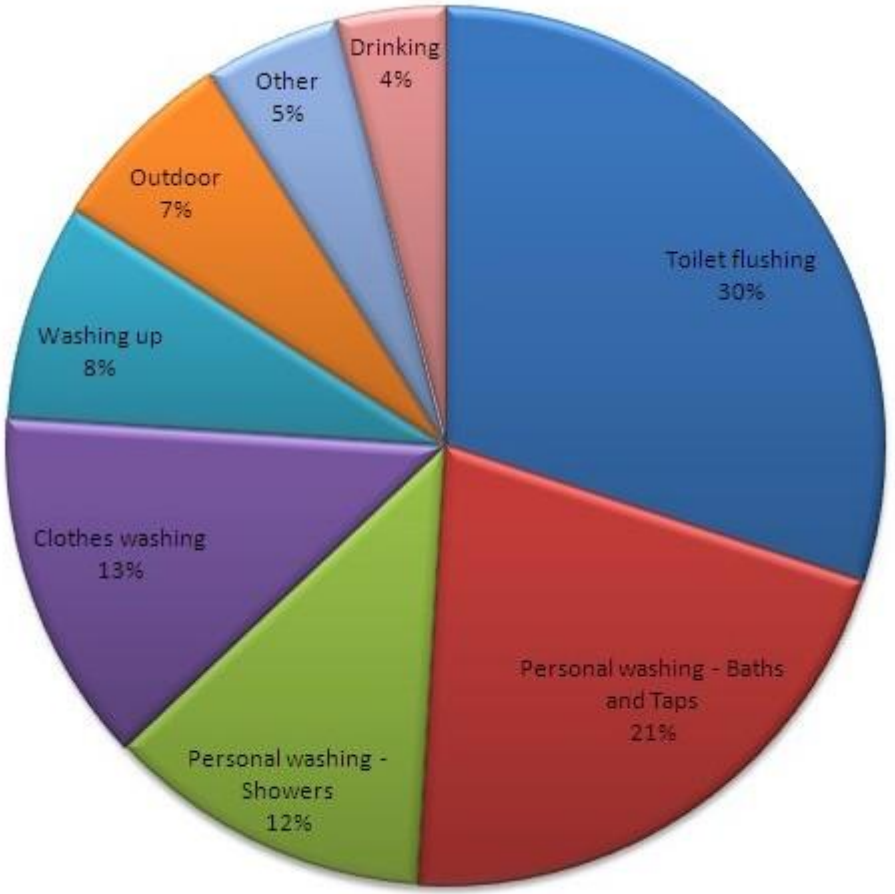
- a. It increases.





24. On average, how much water does each person in the United States use each year?

- d. 95,000 L



25. In addition to personal use by people, large amounts of water are also used by

- a. agriculture and industry.

26. As the population of the United States increases, the demand for water

- b. also increases.

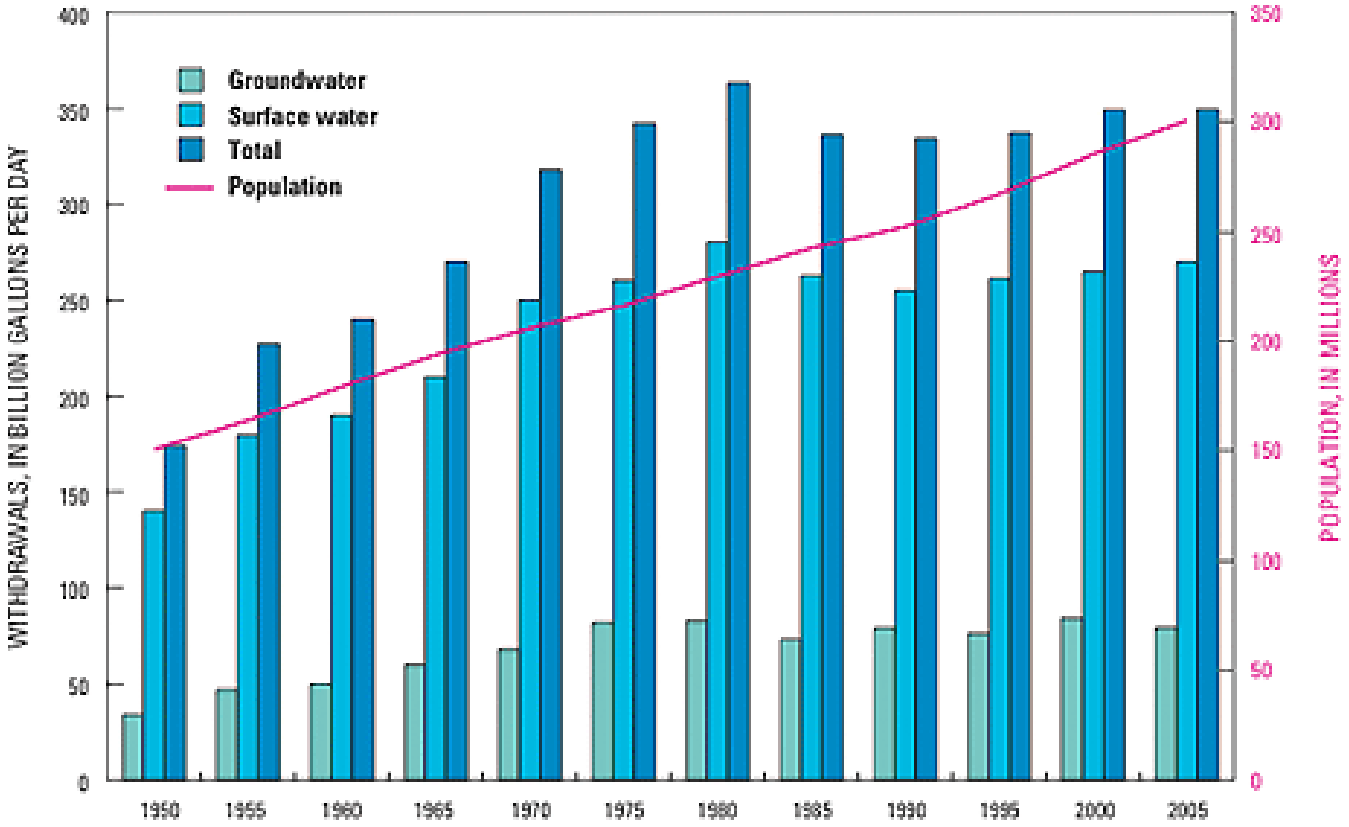


Figure 13. Trends in population and freshwater withdrawals by source, 1950–2005.

27. What happens to about 90% of the water used by cities and industry in the United States?

- d. It is returned to rivers or to the oceans as wastewater.

28. What is a problem with some of the wastewater that people dispose of?

- c. Some of it contains harmful materials.

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The End!!!