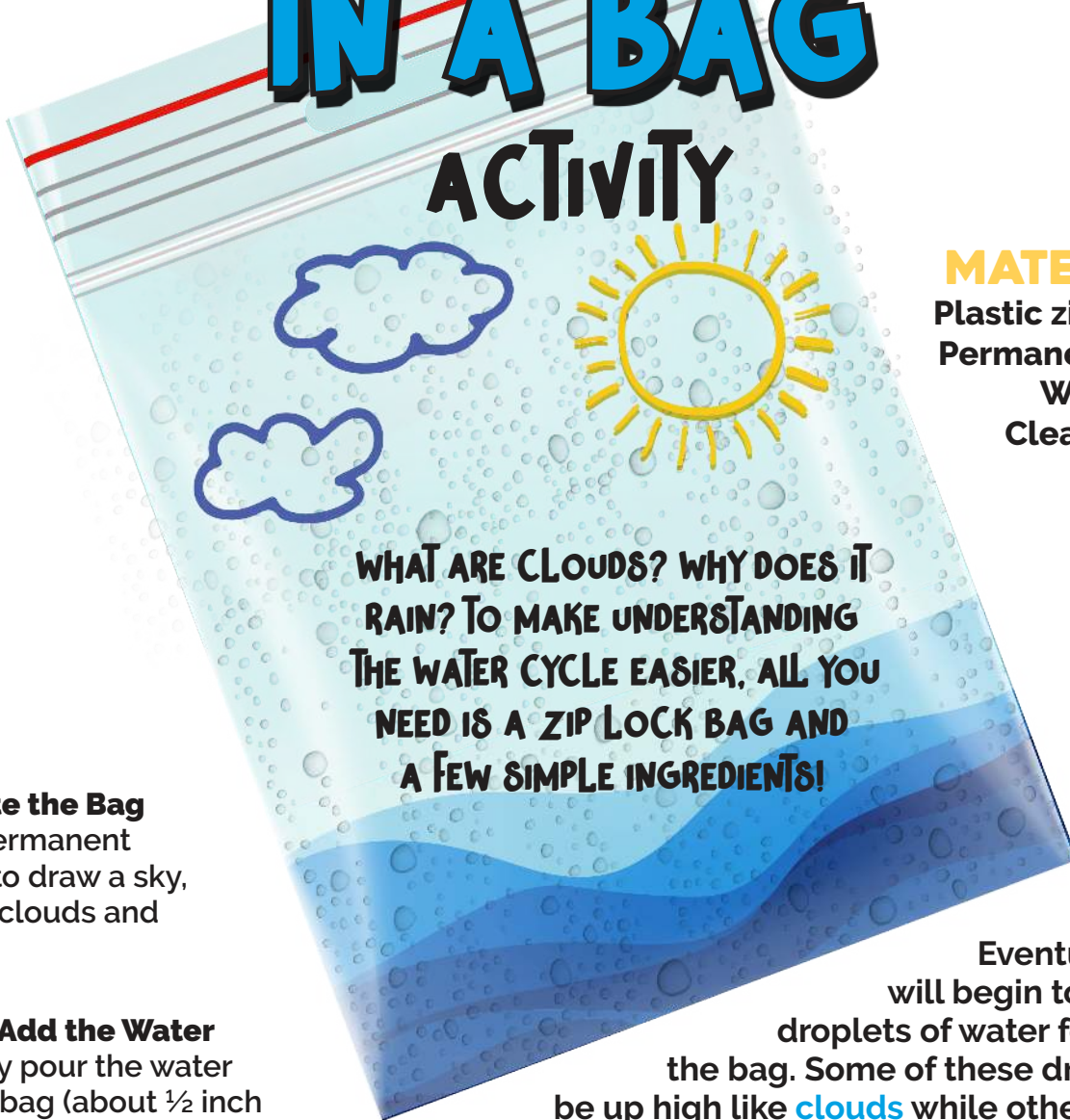


# WATER CYCLE IN A BAG ACTIVITY



**MATERIALS:**  
Plastic zip lock bag  
Permanent marker  
Water  
Clear tape

## STEP 1:

### Decorate the Bag

Use a permanent marker to draw a sky, include clouds and the sun!

## STEP 2: Add the Water

Carefully pour the water into the bag (about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch of water) and zip it closed tight.

## STEP 3: Hang Up the Bag

Pick a window that gets a lot of sunshine for best results. Tape tightly to the window!

## STEP 4: Wait and Observe

WHAT ARE CLOUDS? WHY DOES IT RAIN? TO MAKE UNDERSTANDING THE WATER CYCLE EASIER, ALL YOU NEED IS A ZIP LOCK BAG AND A FEW SIMPLE INGREDIENTS!

Eventually, you will begin to see little droplets of water forming in the bag. Some of these droplets will be up high like **clouds** while other droplets will drip down the edges like **rain**.

Why is this happening? It's because the sun is heating up the water in the bag. The water turns into a **gas** (water vapor) through the process called **EVAPORATION**. In nature, the water vapor rises into the atmosphere, but in our bag, it sticks to the bag. As it cools it turns back into a liquid through a process called **CONDENSATION** and **rains** back into the pool below. Amazingly, water repeats this cycle again and again. Water is always moving!

Keep checking on your bag to see the water cycle in progress!

