**Introduction to the Water Cycle:**

**1. Ask students: “Can people make water?”**

**Answer: No, people cannot make water. We have all the water we will ever have since the earth was formed. The water continuously goes in a cycle.**

* **Water can be solid, like ice.**
* **It may be liquid, like what we drink.**
* **Or it may be a gas called water vapor (blow into a plastic bag and show the students how the bag steams up because your breath is water vapor).**

**2. Read book about Drippy the Raindrop which is a great introduction to the Water Cycle.**

**3. Show students how clouds form**

* **Dip a cotton ball in water until it is completely saturated (This demonstrates condensation and how clouds form)**
* **Squeeze the cotton ball to show what happens when the cloud gets completely full (This demonstrates precipitation)**
* **Ask students what kind of precipitation falls when it is freezing outside? What kind falls when it is warm?**

**4. Do thunderstorm in a cup demonstration (attached as a separate document)**

**5. Let students make their own thunderstorm using construction paper and cotton balls (page 2 of the thunderstorm in a cup demo)**