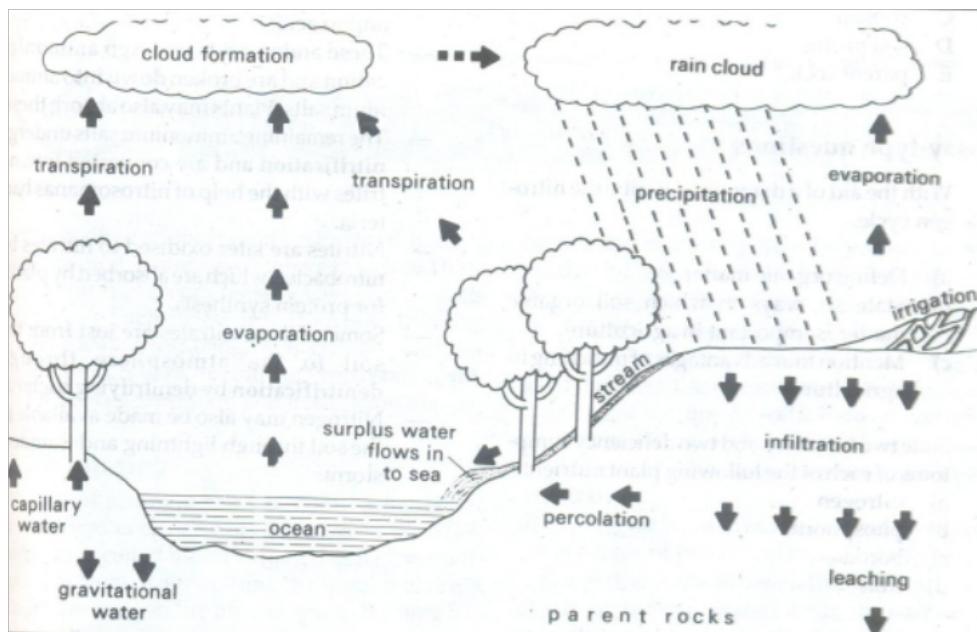


Sub-topic 2:

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Water Cycle: Water cycle is the constant circulation of water in various ways in the environment.



Processes of Water Cycle: The environment holds a certain volume of water as vapour. This vapour falls down as rain when ever condition favours it. Part of the rain water is absorbed by soil and is taken up by plants. They are later evaporated through the process of transpiration. Part of the water flows underground to join lakes and ocean. Some of the water is brought to the earth surface inform of spring water, well, and bore-hole.

Water gets evaporated into the atmosphere from the ocean, lakes, rivers and soil. Part of the water is also taken up and excreted by human and animals. The sun and the atmospheric gravity ensures the constant movement of vapour and water in the atmosphere.

Importance of water Cycle

1. The water cycle plays a significant role in the maintenance of life and ecosystem on earth.
2. The water cycle helps purify water, replenishes the land with fresh water and assists in the transport of minerals in the environment.
3. It contributes to erosion and sedimentary.

PHOSPHOROUS CYCLE

Phosphorous cycle is the circulation of phosphorous in the environment. It illustrates the movement of phosphorous through the lithosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere.

Process of Phosphorous Cycle

Phosphorous is found in rocks and mineral form. In nature it exists as phosphate ion. Plants absorb phosphate ions from soil and use it for growth and development. The crops get consumed by the herbivorous animals and man which are also consumed by carnivorous animals. The plants and animals die and the phosphorous present in their body is decomposed and released into the soil as phosphates ions. The phosphate carried by runoff water sinks into the soil and deposited into ocean while some from rocks, and the cycle continues.

Importance of Phosphorous

1. Phosphorous is useful for plants and animals
2. About 80% of the phosphorous is used to make fertilizers
3. Dilute phosphoric acid is used in soft drinks
4. Over enrichment of phosphate can lead to algae bloom as it causes bacteria to grow in large quantities. They cause the death of fish.
5. Phosphorous causes pollution of lakes and streams.

