



LAURITZEN  
GARDENS

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Discovery Tour  
Student Packet

5th Grade

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Parts of a Plant



There are three main parts to plants and they need all three parts to eat, grow, and live.

Roots are the "mouth" of the plant and are one of the most important parts. Roots are how water and minerals get into the plant. They also anchor the plant in place. After the root sends water and minerals into the plant, the stem takes over. There are special cells called phloem and xylem that do the work of moving the water and nutrients. Xylem move the water and minerals up to the leaves and then after the leaves do their job, the phloem move the food (sugar) down to feed the plant. Leaves are the food factory. Leaves are where water and minerals are converted (changed) into food for the plant. This is done by a process called photosynthesis.

## What Do You Know About Plants?

### Fill in the Blank

leaves	stem	roots
sun	water	flower

To grow, a plant needs \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ on the plant helps to make seeds and fruit.

The \_\_\_\_\_ absorb the water and hold the plant in the soil.

The \_\_\_\_\_ use the sun and air to make food for the plant.

Lauritzen Gardens  
**Water Cycle**



What is the water cycle? It is the processes by which water circulates between the earth's oceans, atmosphere, and land involving precipitation as rain and snow, drainage in streams and rivers, and return to the atmosphere by evaporation and transpiration.

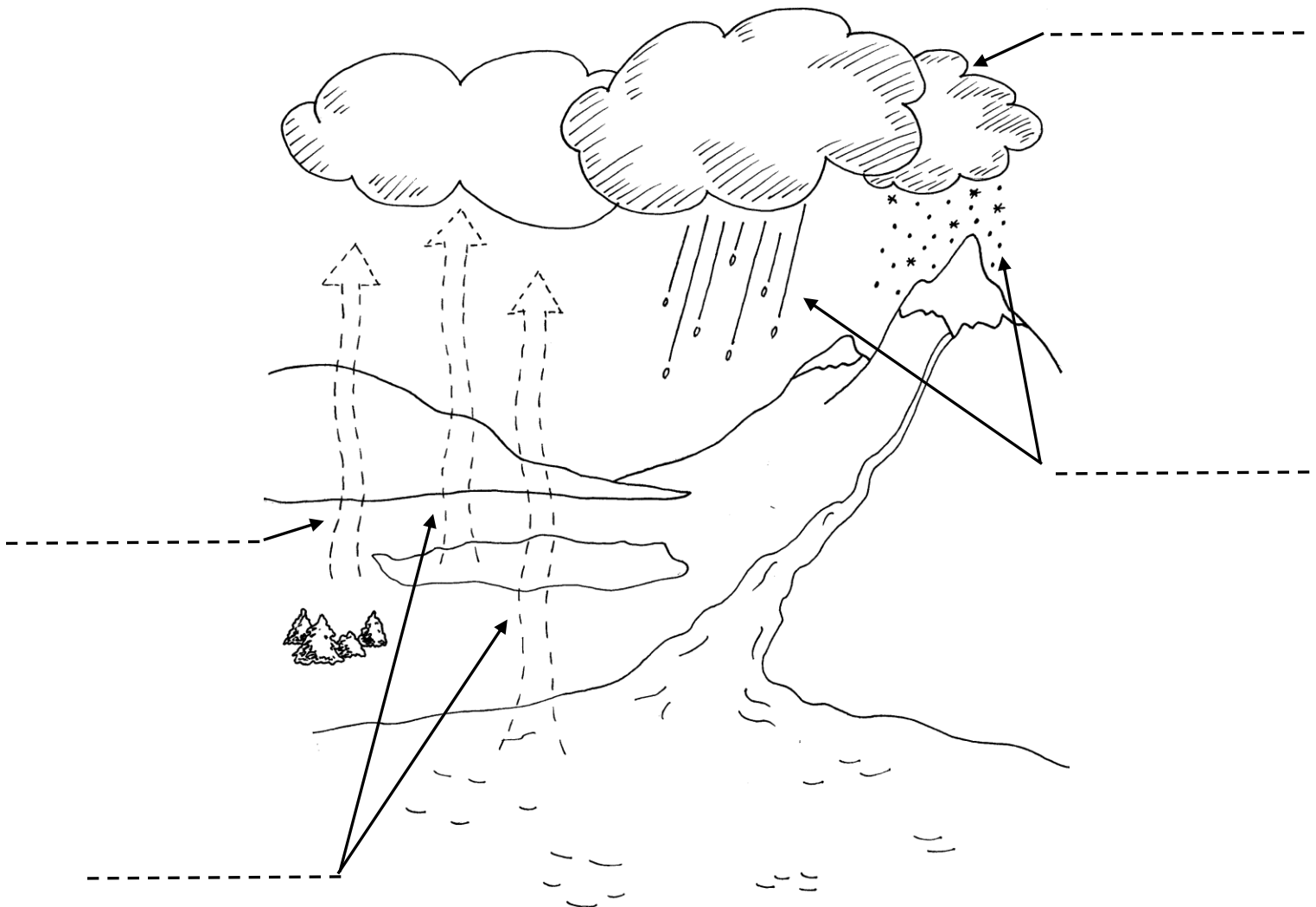
Evaporation is when liquid water molecules gain enough energy to vaporize, or turn into a gas.

Condensation is the process by which a gas cools and becomes a liquid; we can see condensed water from setting a glass of cold water on the table or in the sky as clouds.

Precipitation is when condensed water in the air (which forms clouds) falls to the earth, like rain or snow.

Transpiration is the process of water vapor releasing from plants and soil. This step is difficult to observe, but is a very important part of the water cycle.

### Label What You See



# Can You Identify Producers, Consumers and Decomposers?



In an ecosystem living organisms are also grouped by how they get food for energy. There are three main groups that each have different roles. Each group depends on each other and could not survive if one group were removed.

Producer: Plants are called producers because they 'produce' or make their own food.

Consumer: Animals are called consumers because they 'consume' or eat plants or other animals.

Decomposer: Decomposers break down dead plants and animals and get their nutrition from them while doing so.

- |           |       |                  |         |       |
|-----------|-------|------------------|---------|-------|
| Berries   | Acorn | Millipede        | Owl     | Ant   |
| Hawk      | Grass | Mushroom (fungi) | Frog    | Mouse |
| Earthworm | Tree  | Slug             | Raccoon | Fly   |

Producers	Consumers	Decomposers