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by Henry Ravenwood

How would you like to be a drop of water? You spend your time floating along with lots of other water droplets in a stream or river. Then the sun shines down on you. The warmth feels wonderful. The next thing you know, you are being pulled upward. *What is this?* you think. Then you remember that you have done this before. The sunshine has heated you up, and you are no longer a liquid. You are water vapor.

- ² As water vapor, you go up and up. The higher you go, the colder it gets. This turns you back into a water droplet. Soon you are joined by many other water droplets. You are part of a lovely, fluffy cloud.
- ³ In time you and your friends get too heavy for the air to hold you up. You fall back to Earth. You are a special kind of water droplet now. You are rain.
- ⁴ With any luck you will fall back into a stream or lake or ocean. If you don't, it won't matter. Sooner or later you will join other drops of water.
- ⁵ It is a good thing you go through this cycle. Your friend, Earth, has only a certain amount of water. It can't make any more. The water cycle will help keep you around and around for a long time.

Comprehension

- A Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a* or *b*.
 - 1 Another good name for this story is
 - a Water Vapor.
 - **b** The Water Cycle.
 - 2 The water that is on Earth is a very old.
 - b made by Earth.
 - 3 A cycle is something that
 - a changes.
 - **b** repeats.

Learn about Words

B Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.) Write the word.

- 1 resting on top of water (1)
- 2 reflects light; makes bright (1)
- 3 very good; splendid (1)
- 4 drop (3)
- 5 a set of events that repeat (5)

- **C** Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.
 - 6 A life _____ may begin with eggs.
 - 7 It would be _____ to be in a cloud.
 - 8 The sun _____ bright on a clear day.
 - **9** Joyce enjoyed _____ on her raft in the middle of the pool.
 - **10** Be careful that you do not _____ off your bicycle!

- 4 In this story the water cycle takes place
 - a inside.
 - **b** outside.
- 5 A water droplet
 - a can think.
 - b cannot think.

Дніик уволд ја

D What happened first in the story? What happened second? What happened third, fourth, and last?

first second third fourth last

Read the sentences. They tell what happened in the story. However, they are not in the right order. Choose the word from the box that tells when each sentence happened. Write the word.

- 1 The water droplets form a cloud.
- 2 The water droplets fall as rain.
- **3** The sunshine turns the water droplet into water vapor.
- 4 The water droplets get too heavy.
- 5 The water vapor gets cold.

E sun + light = sunlight

The word *sunlight* means "the light of the sun." *Sunlight* is a compound word. A compound word is made by putting two or more words together.

Look at the two words in **bold type.** Put the two words together to complete the second sentence. Write the compound word.

- 6 The rain fell on a **bee** near the **hive.** The bee was flying back to the _____.
- 7 The sky was as **blue** as a **bird**. The _____ flew through the sky.
- 8 The wind blew up a storm. You should not fly a kite in
- 9 The **sun** will **shine** on the lake. ______ is important to the water cycle.
- **10** It might rain when it is **time** to go to **bed.** The sound of rain at _____ might keep you awake.