



Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Next Generation Stewards

Water Cycle in a Bag

Water is a defining feature of ecosystems, and the amount and type of water in a place determines what organisms can live there. Animals drink it, plants suck it up through their roots, some organisms even bring it into their bodies by absorbing it directly into their cells. One way we can be stewards of clean water is to be careful about what goes down the drains and toilets in our homes. The only things that should go down the toilet are the 4 P's: pee, poop, puke, and (toilet) paper. Let's explore this more by making a water cycle in a bag. Watch the full video: <https://youtu.be/mXPVGDUkLZ0>.

Materials:

- Resealable plastic bag
- Permanent marker
- Water
- Tape

How to do this activity:

- 1) Put the resealable bag on the table with the zipper on top. Near the top of the bag, draw the sun. Just below that, draw some clouds. And near the bottom of the bag, draw some waves.
- 2) Pour water into the bag until it is a couple of inches deep. Seal it tight and hold it upside down over the sink to make sure no water leaks out.
- 3) Hold the bag right side up and tape the top of it to a window. You will get the best results if you choose a window that gets a lot of sunlight and that has a windowsill or a table underneath to help prop up the bottom of the bag.
- 4) Check back on the bag a few times a day. You should see water moving around the inside of the bag like it moves around in the real world. What do you see?
- 5) Optional: Write and/or draw your observations in a journal or on a blank piece of paper. Be sure to include the time of day in each entry.
- 6) We invite you to email your observations to education@mtsgreenway.org, and we may share them on our social media.

