The Water Cycle

**Water vapour** – water in a gas form

**Ice** – water in a solid form

**Ice cap** – a large area (less than 50, 000km²) that is covered in ice.

**Condensation** – the process of cooling water that turns it from a gas

(water vapour) back into a liquid

**Infiltration** – when water moves down through the ground

**Runoff** – when water travels over the top of the ground and back into a stream, river or sea

**Evaporation** – the process of heating water that turns it from a liquid into a gas (water vapour)

**Precipitation** – water falling to the ground from a cloud. It can be in the form of rain, sleet, hail or snow.

**Transpiration** – the process of water evaporating out of the leaf of a plant or tree.

**Ocean** – a very large area of sea. There are usually considered to be five main oceans (Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Southern and Artic.

**River** – A flow of water that leads to the sea. A river is a larger flow of water than a stream.

**Stream** - A flow of water that usually leads into a river. A stream is a smaller flow of water than a river.

**Aquifer** – an underground reservoir of water

**Reservoir** – an area where water is stored

**Cloud** – condensed water (water vapour) that is visible in the atmosphere

**Hydropower** – the method of changing the kinetic energy from falling water into electrical energy.

**Percolation-** the process of water filtering down through the soil