

ABIGAIL

and the restless raindrop

Condensation



Evaporation



Precipitation



Collection



The Science Behind the Story

Has your little one ever asked you where the rain comes from? It's one of those questions where the answer leads to yet more questions. The rain comes from the clouds? Oh... but how did it get into the clouds? Any why doesn't it fall as soon as it gets there, like water out of a tap?

'Abigail and the Restless Raindrop' answers all of those questions by following the adventures of a single drop of water. From the snowy ice-melt at the peaks of mountains, it slowly weaves its way downhill. Some of this snowmelt makes its way underground in a process called infiltration. Little trickles meet to form bigger trickles, giving birth to rivers, lakes, aquifers, and all manner of water bodies. Most of this water eventually makes its way to the ocean.

So where does the rain come from? While water is making its way to the ocean, it is also being drawn into the sky. The heat of the sun causes water to evaporate into the atmosphere in the form of a gas called water vapor. When the air contains enough water vapor, it becomes a cloud. If these clouds cool down enough, the vapor condenses back into liquid water and falls to the earth.

This never ending process is called the water cycle, and it is essential for most life on earth.

