

Make a Water Cycle Wristband

from **Celebrating Chemistry**



Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

All of the water on Earth is part of a never-ending cycle called the water cycle. Water evaporates (becomes gas) from the surface of the Earth, condenses in the atmosphere as clouds, falls to Earth as precipitation and then evaporates again, starting the whole process over.



SAFETY

Be sure to read and follow the Safety Tips on the last page of this activity.

Materials

- String, yarn, cord, or ribbon
- 6 Plastic beads, different colors, listed below

Procedure

1. Thread the colored beads on the string in an order you choose.
2. Place the string around your wrist and tie it (an adult may be able to help you make a slip knot so the bracelet may be easily taken on and off).
3. Rotate the beads around your wrist and explain their meaning to your friends and family.
4. Thoroughly clean the work area and wash your hands.



COLOR	REPRESENTS	MEANING
yellow	solar energy	energy from the sun
clear (no color)	evaporation	the process through which the sun heats up liquid water, which changes into water vapor (a gas) that rises into the atmosphere
green	transpiration	evaporation of water from plants
white	condensation	tiny droplets of water formed when water vapor in the air cools (we see condensed water vapor as clouds)
blue	precipitation	water that falls from the clouds as snow, rain, sleet, or hail
brown	percolation	movement of groundwater below Earth's surface



The American Chemical Society develops materials for elementary school age children to spark their interest in science and teach developmentally appropriate chemistry concepts. The “Activities for Children” collection includes hands-on activities, articles, puzzles, and games on topics related to children’s everyday experiences.

The collection can be used to supplement the science curriculum, celebrate National Chemistry Week, develop Chemists Celebrate Earth Day events, invite children to give science a try at a large event, or to explore just for fun at home.

Find more activities, articles, puzzles, and games at www.acs.org/kids.

Safety Tips

This activity is intended for elementary school children under the direct supervision of an adult. The American Chemical Society cannot be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may result from conducting the activities without proper supervision, from not specifically following directions, or from ignoring the cautions contained in the text.

Always:

- Work with an adult.
- Read and follow all directions for the activity.
- Read all warning labels on all materials being used.
- Wear eye protection.
- Follow safety warnings or precautions, such as wearing gloves or tying back long hair.
- Use all materials carefully, following the directions given.
- Be sure to clean up and dispose of materials properly when you are finished with an activity.
- Wash your hands well after every activity.

Never:

- **Never** eat or drink while conducting an experiment, and be careful to keep all of the materials used away from your mouth, nose, and eyes!
- **Never** experiment on your own!

For more detailed information on safety go to www.acs.org/education and click on “**Safety Guidelines**”.

