LESSON 3: The Water Cycle

Exploration: Water Cycle Stations

Station One

Directions: Carefully look at the bottles. Touch the bottles.

Do the bottles feel **dry** or **wet**? **Dry** **Wet**

Is the bottle **colder** of **warmer** than the air in the room? **Colder** **Warmer**

Do you think the wetness you touched on the bottles is from water inside or outside the bottle?

Inside **Outside**

Station Two

*Directions: Hold the spray bottle high above the map. Spray the map **two** times.*

Does the water **rise** or **fall** as it leaves the spray bottle? **Rise** **Fall**

Does the water collect on the **mountains** or in the **valleys**? **Mountains** **Valleys**

Does this remind you of anything you have seen before? _____

_____

Station Three

*Directions: **Look** at the plant inside the plastic bag.*

Do you see water on the **inside** or the **outside** of the bag? **Inside** **Outside**

Where do you think this water came from? _____

_____

Station Four

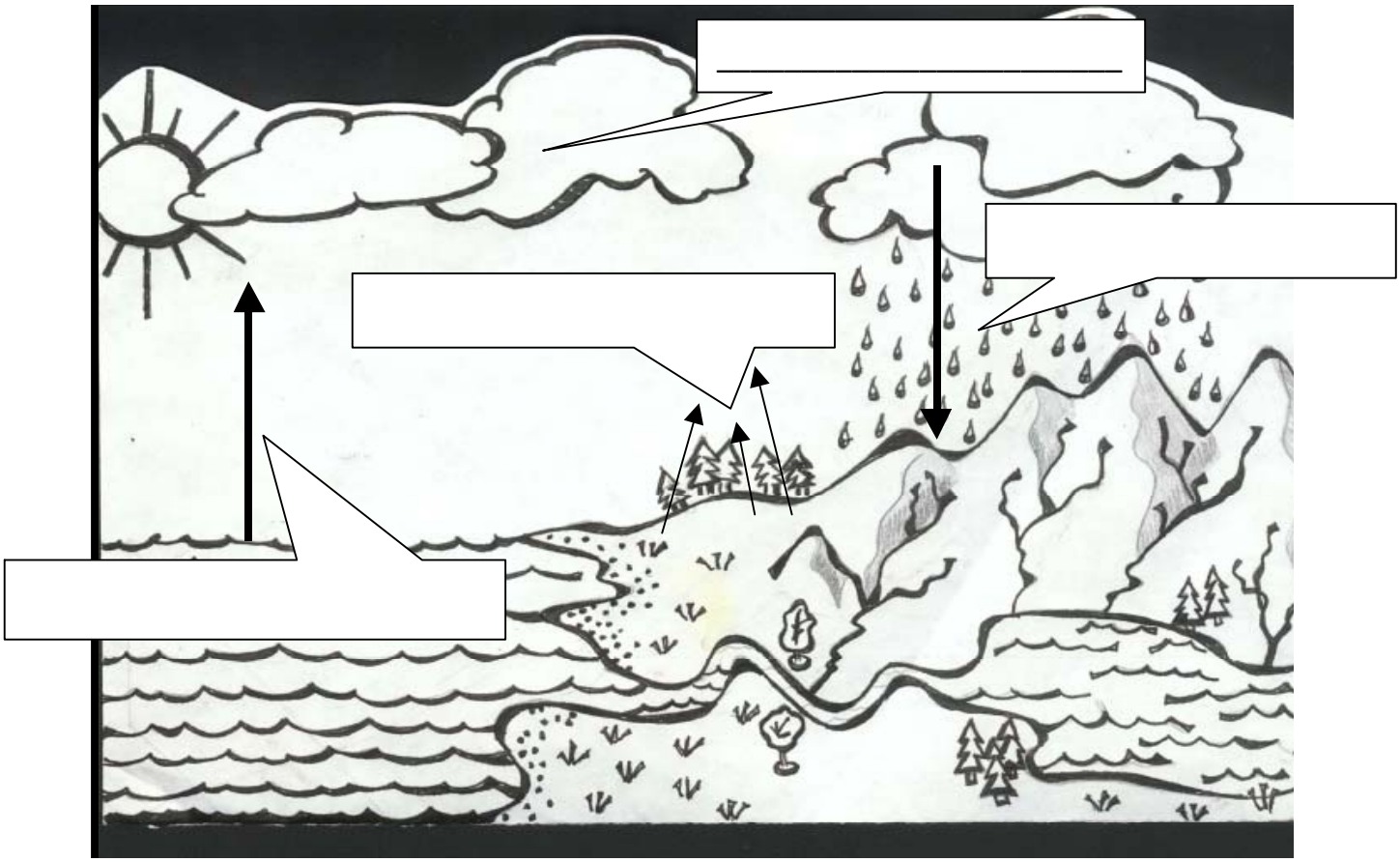
*Directions: **DO NOT TOUCH!** Carefully observe the pot of boiling water.*

What do you **see** coming out of the pot? _____

Where do you think it is going? _____

Vocabulary:

The Water Cycle	The constant movement of water from the Earth's surface, into the atmosphere and back to the earth's surface.
Condensation	Water changing from a gas to a liquid. ***Example:*** The beads of water that form on the outside of a cold bottle or can, or drops of water forming clouds.
Precipitation	Water falling to the Earth's surface from clouds. ***Example:*** Rain, sleet, or snow
Transpiration	Water carried through plants. Water travels from a plant's roots to its leaves where it changes to vapor and is released into the atmosphere. ***Example:*** The mist hanging over the trees early in the morning.
Evaporation	Water changing from a liquid to a gas. ***Example:*** Water disappearing out of an open container over time.

Learning Activity: The Returning Raindrop

Directions: Look at the diagram. Fill in the blanks to describe the parts of the water cycle.