

# Where Does the Rain Come From?

If you look at the sky you can often see clouds. They may be white. Sometimes they are grey or dark grey.

Rain always comes from clouds. But where do clouds come from?

Some clouds look like they are made of cotton wool but they are not!

Clouds are made of millions of water drops and ice crystals. These water drops and ice crystals are so tiny and light that they float in the air.

How does all the water get into the sky? Think a little about your bathroom. There is hot water in your bath now. The water is very hot and the steam goes up from this hot water. The steam makes small clouds in the bathroom. These warm clouds are on the cold walls now. Then we can see small drops of water on the walls of the bathroom.

The world is like your bathroom. The water in the oceans is warm when the sun shines on it. Some of this water goes up into the sky and makes clouds. The wind carries these clouds for hundreds of kilometers. Then the clouds meet cold air in the sky, and we see water. These drops of water are rain. They get bigger and heavier and they are too heavy to float in the sky, and fall to the ground as rain. When the weather is cold these drops are snowflakes or ice crystals.

The rain falls and runs into rivers. Rivers run into oceans. And the water from oceans makes clouds and more rain.

So water is always moving from clouds to rain, to rivers, to oceans and to clouds again.



## 1. Read the text and complete the sentences with the words in the box.

snowflakes \* cotton wool \* bathroom \* raining \* float \*

1. The world is like your \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The clouds are like \_\_\_\_\_.
3. It's \_\_\_\_\_ when clouds meet cold air in the sky.
4. When the temperature is below zero, \_\_\_\_\_ fall down from the clouds.
5. Drops and ice crystals in the clouds are very light, that's why they \_\_\_\_\_ in the sky.

## 2. Put "+" if the sentence is true and "-", if it is false:

1. Clouds are always white in the sky.
2. Clouds are made of cotton wool.
3. When the water is hot in the bathroom, we can see steam.
4. The steam goes up.
5. Clouds can travel for a long distance in the sky if the wind blows.
6. When the clouds are heavy, they can float for hundreds of kilometers.
7. It is raining when it is frosty.

## 3. Answer the questions:

1. Does the steam go up or down?
2. Where do clouds come from?
3. Where do rains fall?
4. Why do clouds fly in the sky far away?
5. When do we have snow? Why?