Water (Hydrologic) Cycle Bracelet

All water on earth moves through the hydrologic cycle. This cycle includes four basic processes: precipitation, percolation and surface runoff, evaporation and transpiration, and condensation.

Materials:

- 10" 12" Leather cord
- Colored beads
 - o White/UV
 - o Light blue
 - o Brown/Gold
 - o Dark blue
 - o Green
 - o Yellow
 - o Clear

Procedure:



1. Place a light blue bead on the leather cord. This represents rain or precipitation that falls to the ground.



2. Place a **brown/gold** bead on the leather cord. This represents the ground or **percolation**. Some of the water soaks into the ground. The water in the ground is either used by plants or remains underground until needed.



3. Add a **dark blue** bead to represent the oceans, lakes, ponds, and streams where some of the water that falls back to earth flows into rivers, lakes and oceans. This is called **surface runoff**.



4. Add a **green** bead for the plants, trees, and grasses that use water and release some of that water through **transpiration**.



5. Add a yellow bead to represent the sun. The sun creates heat which changes water into tiny invisible droplets called vapor.



6. A Clear bead is added next to represent the water vapor created by the sun. This is an example of **evaporation**, which we cannot see.



7. Place a white/UV bead on the leather cord. This represents the clouds. Water vapor forms clouds. It cools and **condenses** or comes together into tiny droplets that attach to specks of dirt, dust or salt crystals from the sea and come back down again as precipitation.

Finally, tie the bracelet to show that the cycle goes around and around. It is continuously occurring. The water on earth today is the same water that existed billions of years ago.

