

## **Ripple Effect - The Water Cycle**

Did you know that the water you are drinking today might have been the same water a dinosaur drank millions of years ago?!

How is that possible? There is the same amount of water on Earth today as there has always been. The water keeps moving around in an endless cycle called **the water cycle**.

Water evaporates from oceans, rivers and lakes and rises into the atmosphere where it condenses to form clouds. Precipitation then falls to the earth in the form of rain or snow where it flows into oceans, rivers and lakes and the process begins again.

The time it takes for one water molecule to pass through this cycle can range from hours to months—even to thousands of years where that water is frozen in a glacier for centuries before it melts.

That means we could be—just could be—drinking from the same waters once consumed by dinosaurs! That water is going to be around for a long time – so take good care of it!

This Ripple Effect is brought to you by the Red River Basin Commission.