Weather and Water Study Guide - Answers

**Students WILL be allowed to use their notes on the test, so they should become familiar with them beforehand!**

1. In your own words, describe what happens in each of the following parts of the water cycle:

   - **Evaporation** - Evaporation is when the sun heats up water in rivers, lakes or oceans and turns it into vapor or steam.
   - **Precipitation** - Precipitation happens when so much water in the air has condensed that the air can’t hold it anymore. The clouds get heavy and water falls back to Earth in the form of rain, hail, or snow.
   - **Condensation** - Condensation is when water vapor in the air gets cold and changes back into liquid, forming clouds.
   - **Transpiration** - Transpiration is the process by which plants lose water out of their leaves and it evaporates.

2. Which is denser, ice or water? Why? Water is denser than ice. Ice floats, and all items that float are less dense than water.

3. What happens to water when it freezes? When water freezes, it expands and becomes ice.

4. What are three causes of water pollution? Water pollution is caused by humans. Some types of this pollution include: chemicals (from factories, homes, or water craft), oil, erosion, litter, and air pollution (becomes acid rain).
5. Define the following words:

**Hydrosphere** - All the water on Earth.

**Conservation** - Preserving or protecting something - water is conserved by not wasting it and not polluting.

**Expand** - To get bigger.

**Contract** - To get smaller.

**Groundwater** - Water that is under ground. Groundwater is part of the water cycle.

6. List four properties of water. Water beads up on some materials, like wax paper and aluminum foil. It can be absorbed, like on sponges, paper, and paper towels. Water can bounce off a surface or be absorbed by it. Water will change shape on different materials’ surfaces. Water can move around easily when it’s a bead of water. Sometimes when water moves, it leaves behind a water trail.