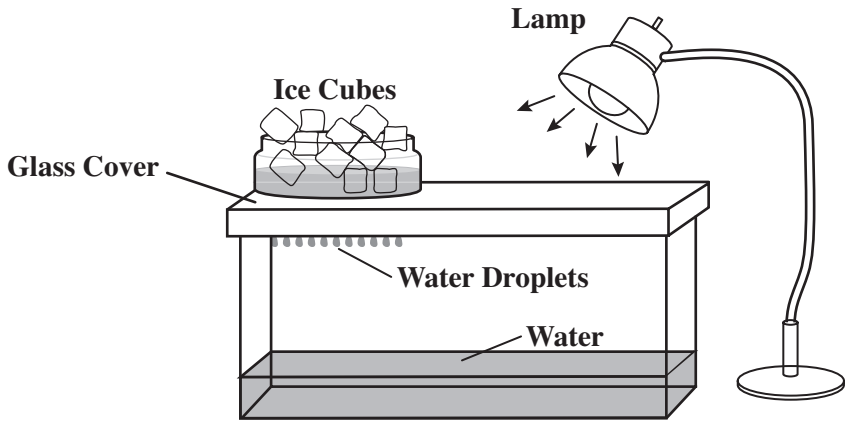
Benchmark SC.5.E.7.1

Reporting Category	Earth and Space Science
Standard	**Big Idea 7** Earth Systems and Patterns
Benchmark	**SC.5.E.7.1 Create a model to explain the parts of the water cycle. Water can be a gas, a liquid, or a solid and can go back and forth from one state to another. (Also assesses SC.5.E.7.2.)**
Also Assesses	**SC.5.E.7.2** Recognize that the ocean is an integral part of the water cycle and is connected to all of Earth's water reservoirs via evaporation and precipitation processes.
Benchmark Clarifications	Students will identify and/or explain the parts of the water cycle. Students will identify the states of water associated with each part of the water cycle and/or explain the phase changes that occur as water moves from one part of the water cycle to another. Students will identify and/or describe the role of the ocean in the water cycle.
Content Limits	Items will not address or assess transpiration, infiltration, or percolation as processes of the water cycle. Items assessing the phases of water are limited to a water cycle context.
Stimulus Attribute	Scenarios referring to the water cycle will not use the term *reservoir*.
Response Attributes	None specified
Prior Knowledge	Items may require the student to apply science knowledge described in the NGSSS from lower grades. This benchmark requires prerequisite knowledge from SC.2.E.7.1, SC.2.E.7.2, SC.2.E.7.3, and SC.2.P.8.4.

Sample Item 10 SC.5.E.7.1

A model of the water cycle was made using an aquarium with a glass cover, a container of ice cubes, water, and a lamp.



Which part of the water cycle causes the water droplets to form on the glass cover?

★ **A.** condensation
B. evaporation
C. precipitation
D. runoff