Water we use has been on our planet for billions of years – the water continually moves through the water cycle shown above which includes processes of evaporation, condensation, transpiration, and precipitation.

- **Accumulation**: the process in which water collects in large, low-lying bodies (oceans, lakes)

- **Condensation**: the transformation of water vapor into liquid water by cooling

- **Evaporation**: the transformation of liquid water into water vapor by heating from the sun – the water vapor becomes a cloud in the air

- **Infiltration**: the process in which liquid water passes into, or through land by filtering

- **Precipitation**: rain, hail, or snow falling from the clouds due to the condensation of water

- **Runoff**: liquid water from rain or snow that flows over the surface of the land and into streams, rivers, lakes, ocean

- **Transpiration**: the process by which plants release water through the pores in their leaves
Living Local worksheet

Name______________________________

Water

1. What processes shown above can you identify in the mural?

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2. What happens when there is too much water in an environment? What are the impacts? How is this shown in the mural? What ways are shown in the mural for reducing such impacts?

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3. 70 percent of the Earth is covered by water but only 2.5 percent is fresh water. Of that freshwater only 1 percent is accessible for us to use (the rest is tied up in glaciers, plants, and the soil). Even less is clean and available for us to drink. Does this knowledge change the way you use water? What are some ways families and towns can better conserve water?

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