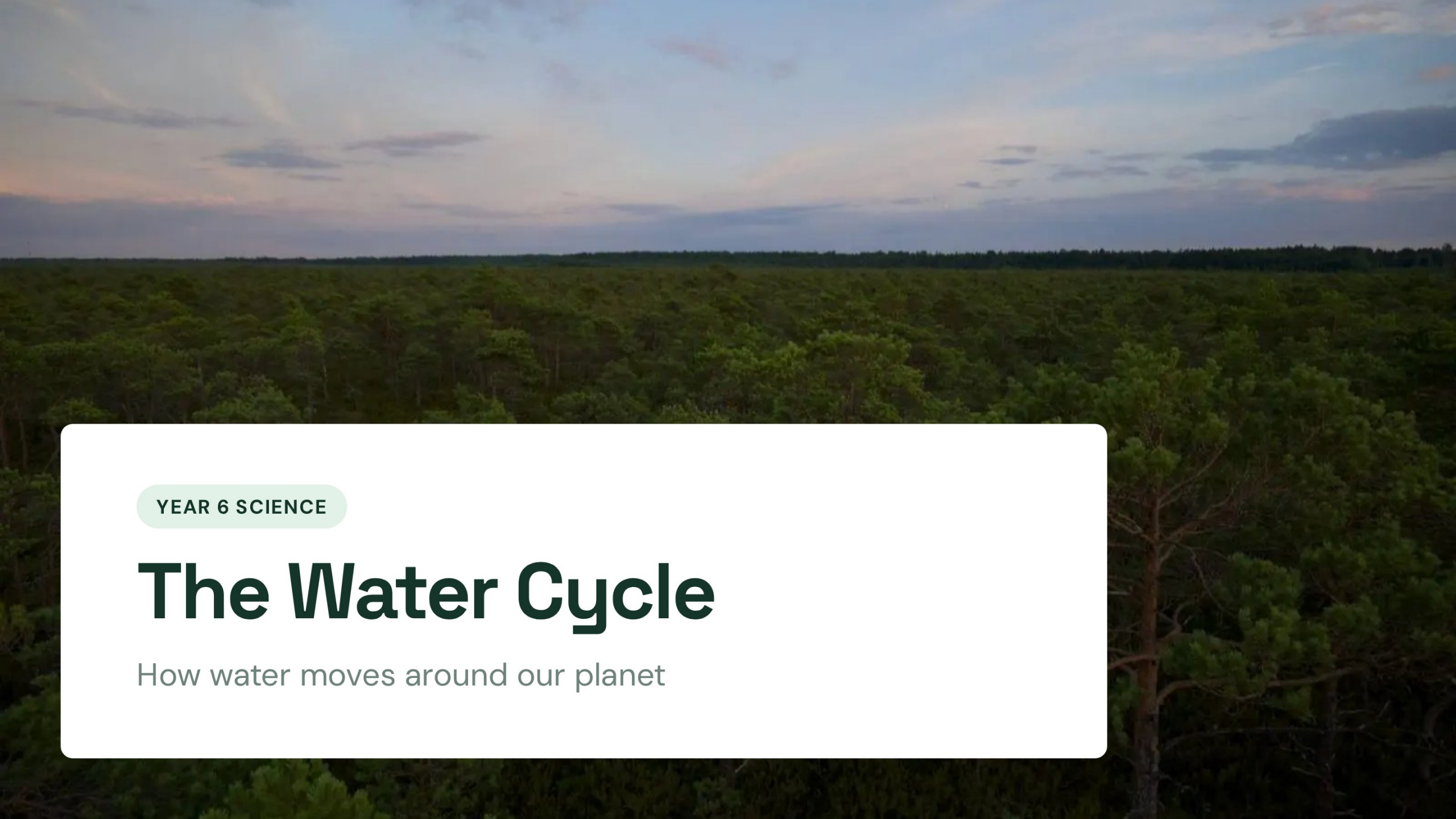


YEAR 6 SCIENCE

The Water Cycle

How water moves around our planet

What we will cover

Four short parts, then a quiz.

01 Where Earth's water is

02 The four stages

03 Why the cycle matters

04 A quick quiz



97%

of Earth's water is salt water in the oceans

Most of Earth’s water is salty

Only a small part is fresh water we can drink.

The four stages

Water moves in a loop that never stops.

1. **Evaporation**
   The sun heats water in seas and lakes, and it rises as water vapour.
2. **Condensation**
   The vapour cools high in the sky and turns into tiny drops that form clouds.
3. **Precipitation**
   The drops join and fall as rain, snow, sleet or hail.
4. **Collection**
   The water gathers in rivers, lakes, seas and under the ground, and the cycle starts again.

Clouds or fog?

Both are made of tiny water drops.

Clouds

Water drops that form high above the ground.

Fog

A cloud that forms close to the ground.

The same water has been on Earth for millions of years

It keeps moving through the cycle again and again.

Quiz time

Can you name the four stages in order?