

THE AMAZING, DISAPPEARING HAND EXPERIMENT



When the sun shines on water, water slowly begins to disappear. When this happens, it is called **evaporation** (ee-vap-uh-rey-shun). Evaporation happens when the sun takes the water and turns it into vapor. Try this experiment so you can see evaporation for yourself.

You will need:

- A bowl of water
- A sunny sidewalk
- A shady sidewalk

Begin the experiment:

1. Dip your hand in the bowl of water and make a handprint on a sunny sidewalk. Count how long it takes to disappear. Write the number that tells how long each handprint lasted.
2. Now go to a shady sidewalk and make a water handprint there. Count how long it takes to disappear. Write the number that tells how long each handprint lasted.



Make discoveries: Did one handprint last longer than the other? If so, why do you think that happened?

Free school tours: The Springs Preserve offers free, interactive tours for school groups year-round. Teachers, please call **822-7744** for details.

Printed on 30% post-consumer recycled paper. 

Desert Discovery is a publication of the Southern Nevada Water Authority. Learn more about water and your desert environment at our Web sites.

Learn more

Read: “Big Rain Coming” by Katrina Germain. In this picture book, everyone and everything in the Australian outback waits for rain.

“Down Comes the Rain” by Franklyn Branley. Where does rain come from? Learn about the water cycle in this book.