



Water Cycle Game

Act as a water droplet as you move from stop to stop in the water cycle.

About the Game

Each student is a drop of water as it travels the water cycle all over the landscape. Students stop at different stations in their journey. Drops are incorporated into bodies of water, people, clouds, and plants before moving on to the next station through the processes of condensation, evaporation, precipitation and more.

This game gives students a chance to practice all the different ways that water can move through the cycle, and all of the possible stops along the “life” of a drop of water.

Setting Up



You'll Need:

- An open space with room to spread out 9 stations
- A copy of the Water Cycle Game Tracker for each student (students can also work in pairs).
- 9 Water Cycle Stations
- 9 assembled Water Cycle Dice
- (optional) copies of the Water Cycle: Words to Know Info Sheet.
- (optional) A copy of the Water Cycle Autobiography for each student.

Setting Up:

1. Spread out the Water Station Cards.
2. Set each of the die in its corresponding station. The die are labeled with the name of the station that they go to.

Front Loading Tips for a Successful Game

- Before you start, review where and what each station is.
- Students can pick any station to start with as long as there are not too many students at that station already.

About this activity

Grades: 3rd and up

Activity Level: Active



Playing the Game

1. Students pick which station they are going to start with, and go to that station. The leader can also assign students to stations to assure that nothing gets too crowded.
2. Students write down the station that they are currently at in the tracker.
3. Then they roll the die and write down what happened to them and where they are going in the tracker.
4. Then they head to that station, and repeat the process at their new station.
5. There is room on the tracker for students to record 6 stops in the water cycle, but you can choose to do fewer, or more!
6. (optional) Students can use the Water Cycle Autobiography to tell the story of their water drop with words and illustrations.

Harvesting our Experiences

- Ask students to share the story of their water droplet. Were there stations on the water cycle that were most commonly visited?
- Water on Earth is never added or lost it just changes where it is in the cycle. Take a moment to ponder on how amazing it is that we are drinking water that dinosaurs drank.
- Of all the water on Earth, only a small amount is freshwater that can be drunk by people. Talk about the importance of keeping water clean and not wasting water.

Water Cycle Game Tracker

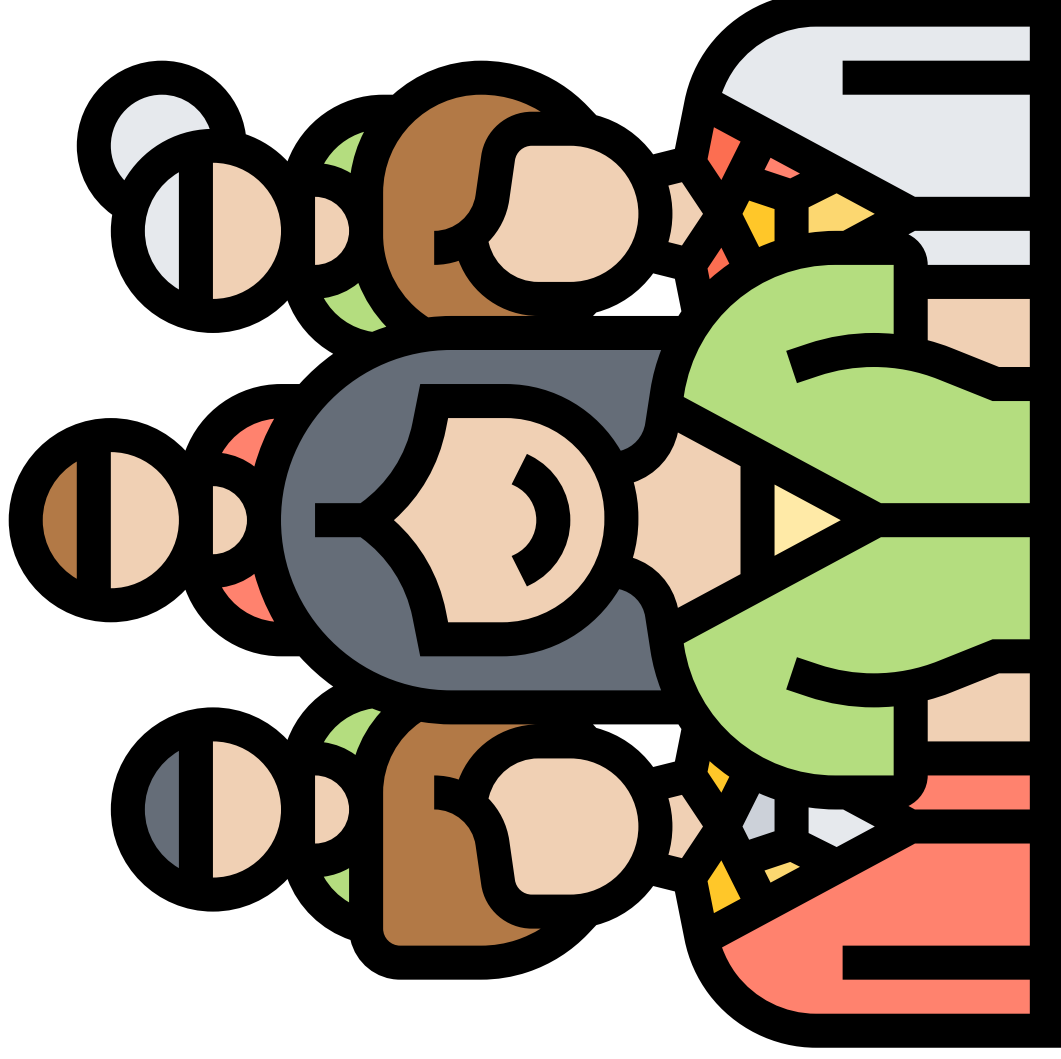
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Lake



Water Cycle Station

Human

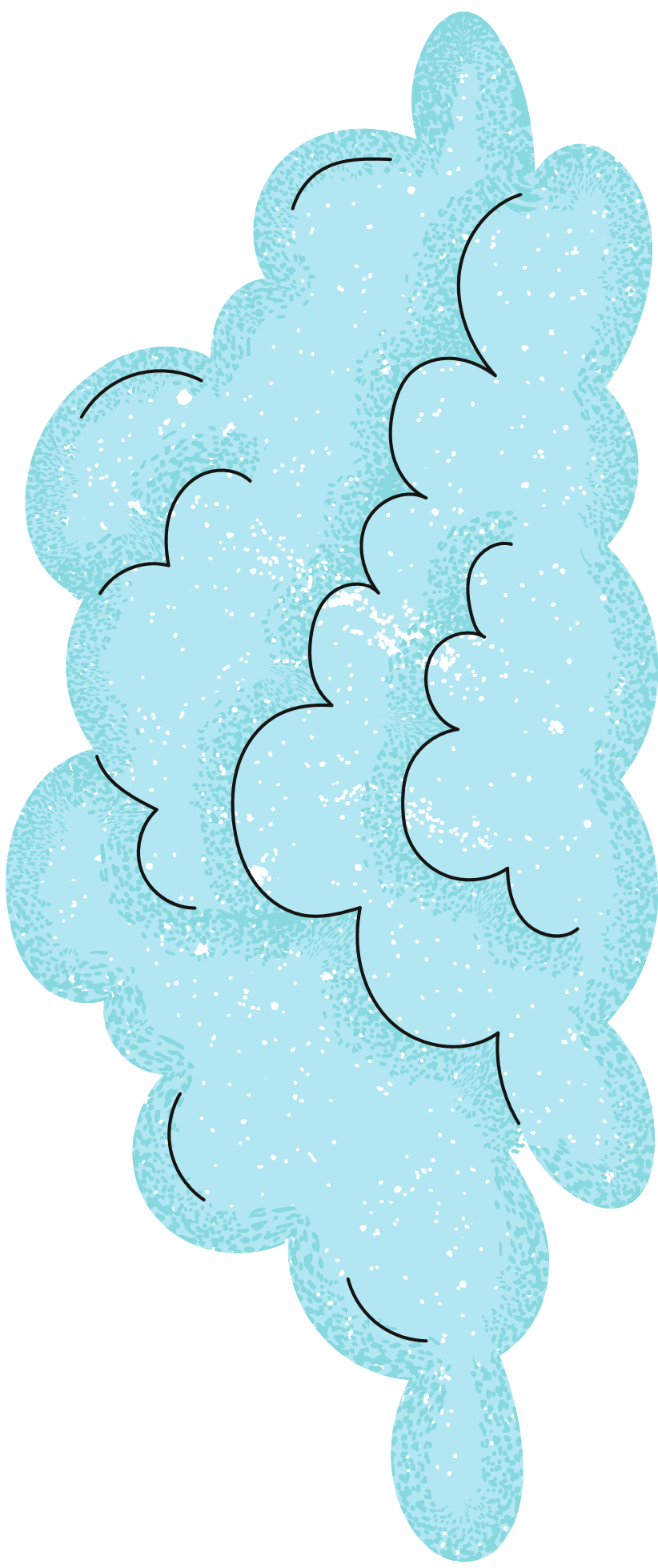


Water Cycle Station

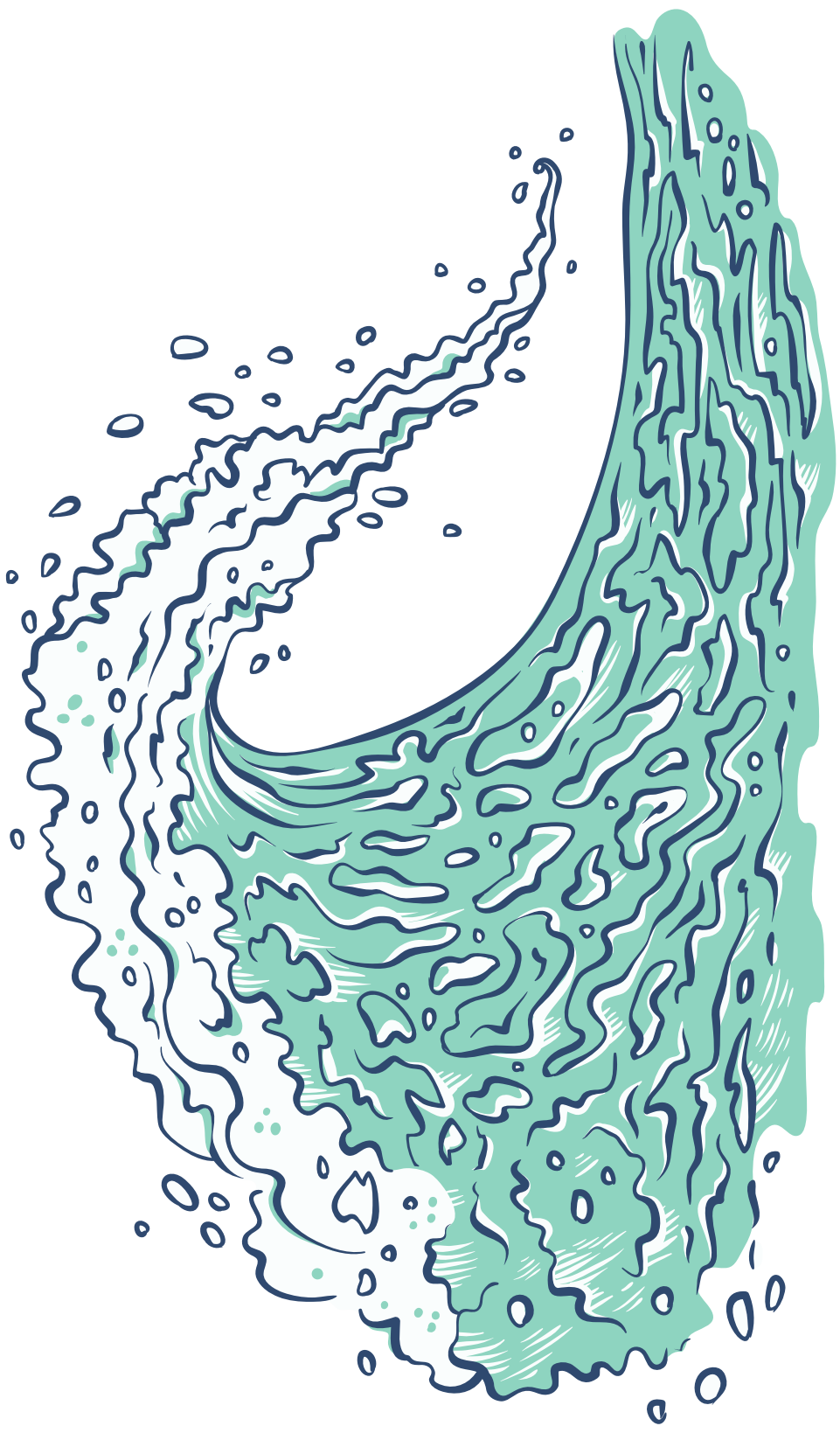
Animal



Clouds

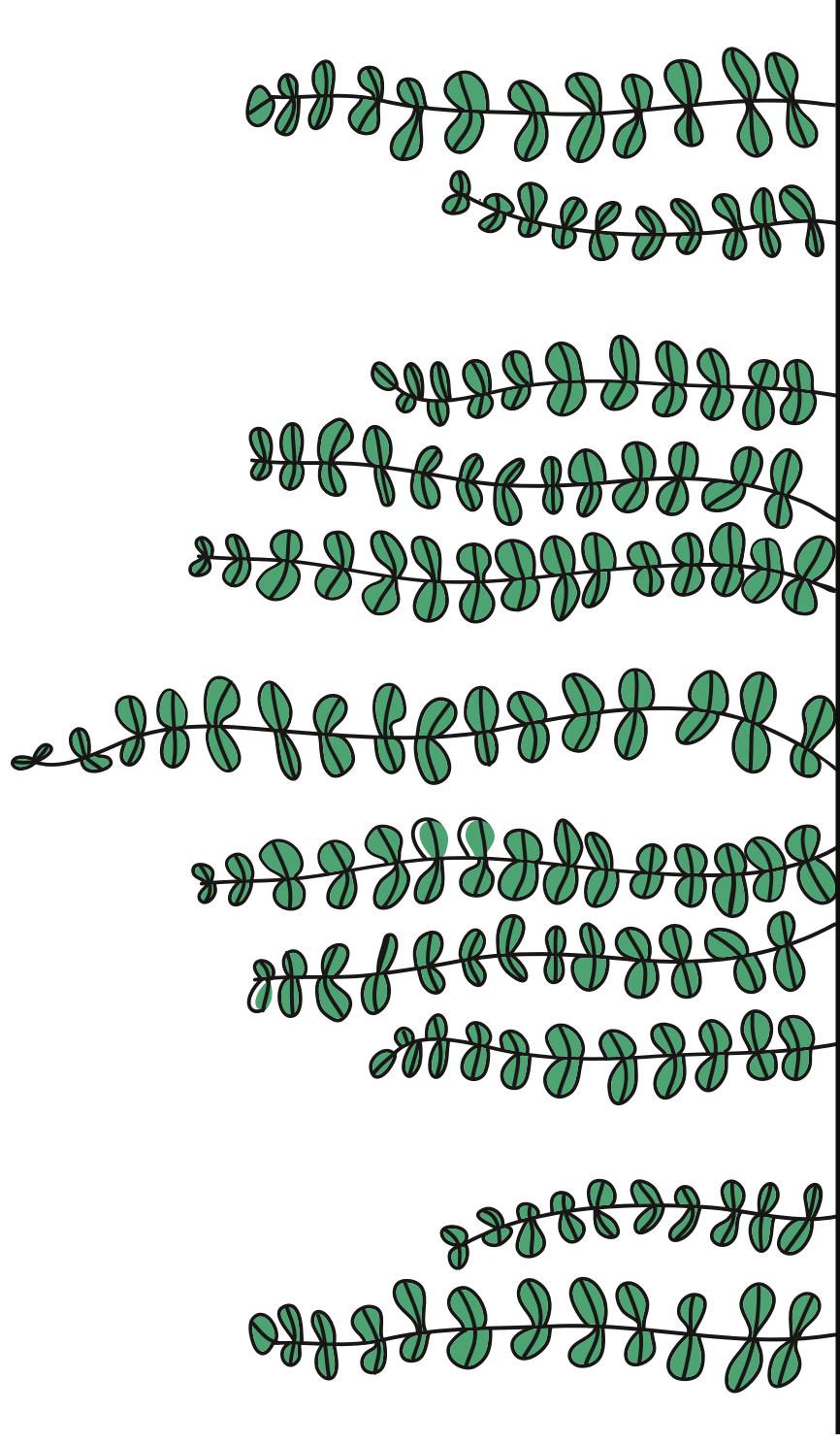


Ocean



Water Cycle Station

Plant



Water Cycle Station

Stream



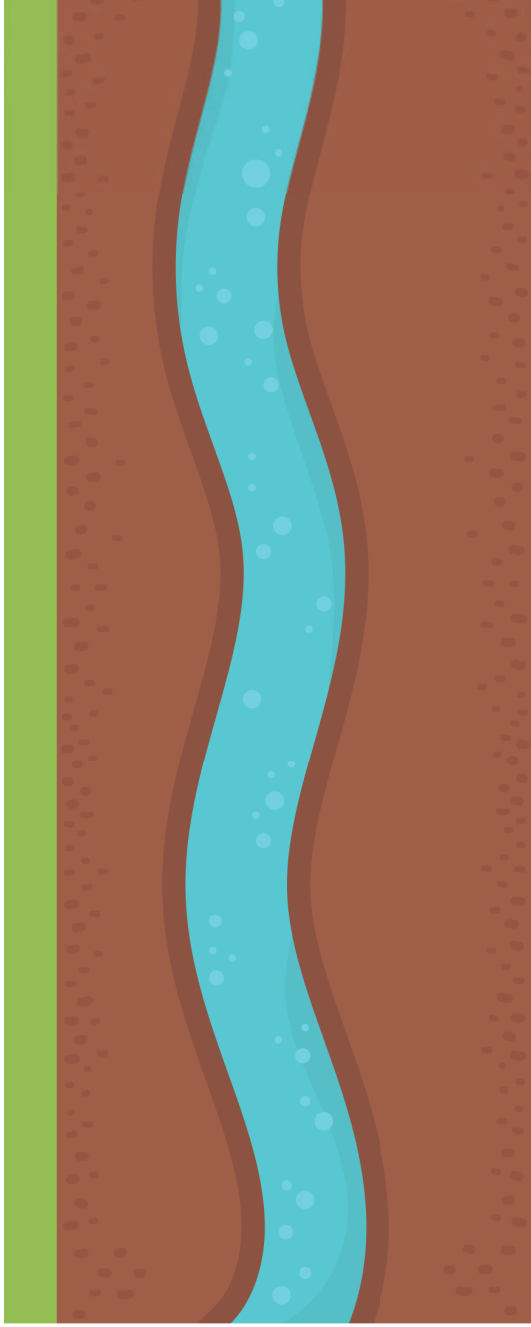
Water Cycle Station

Mountain

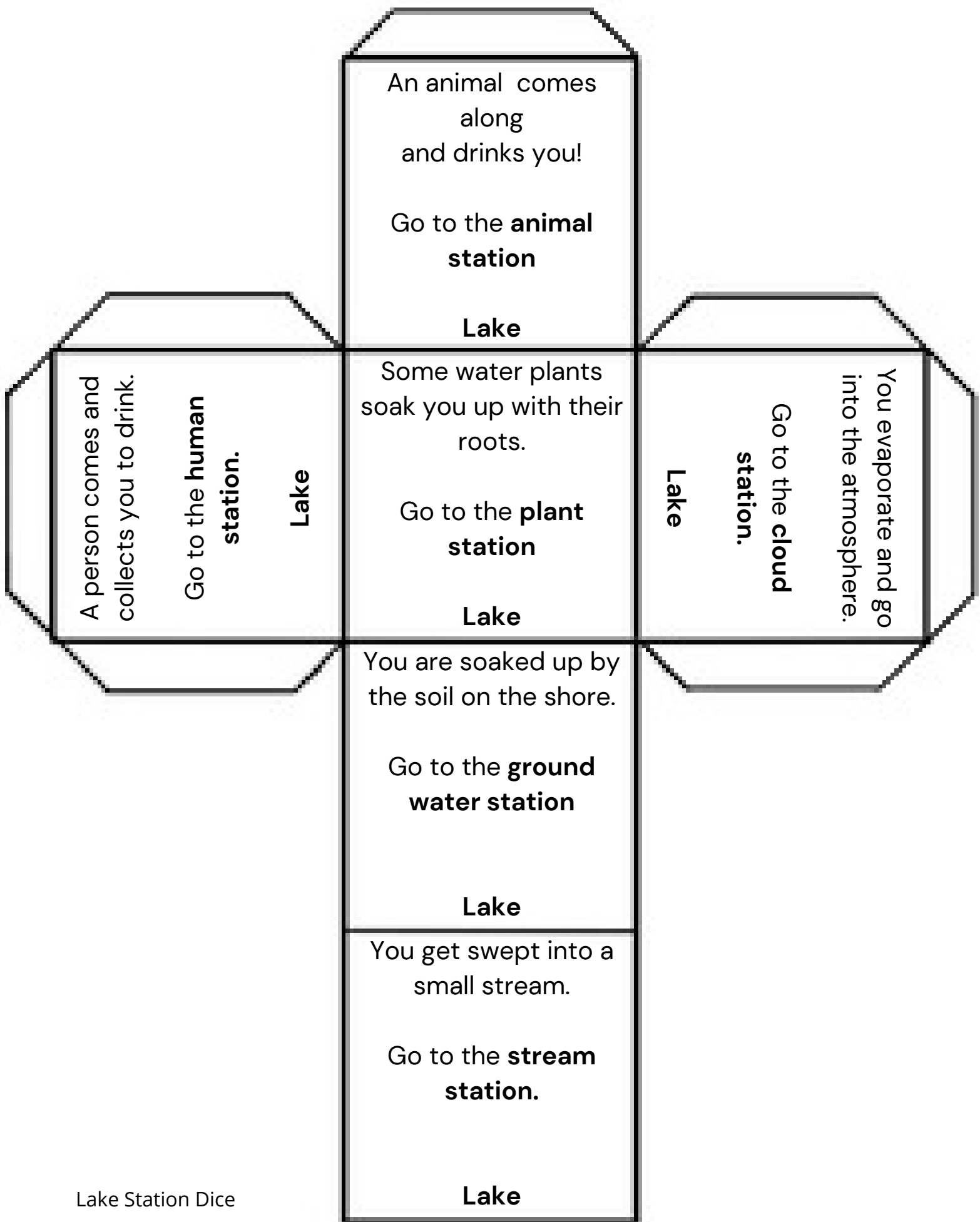


Water Cycle Station

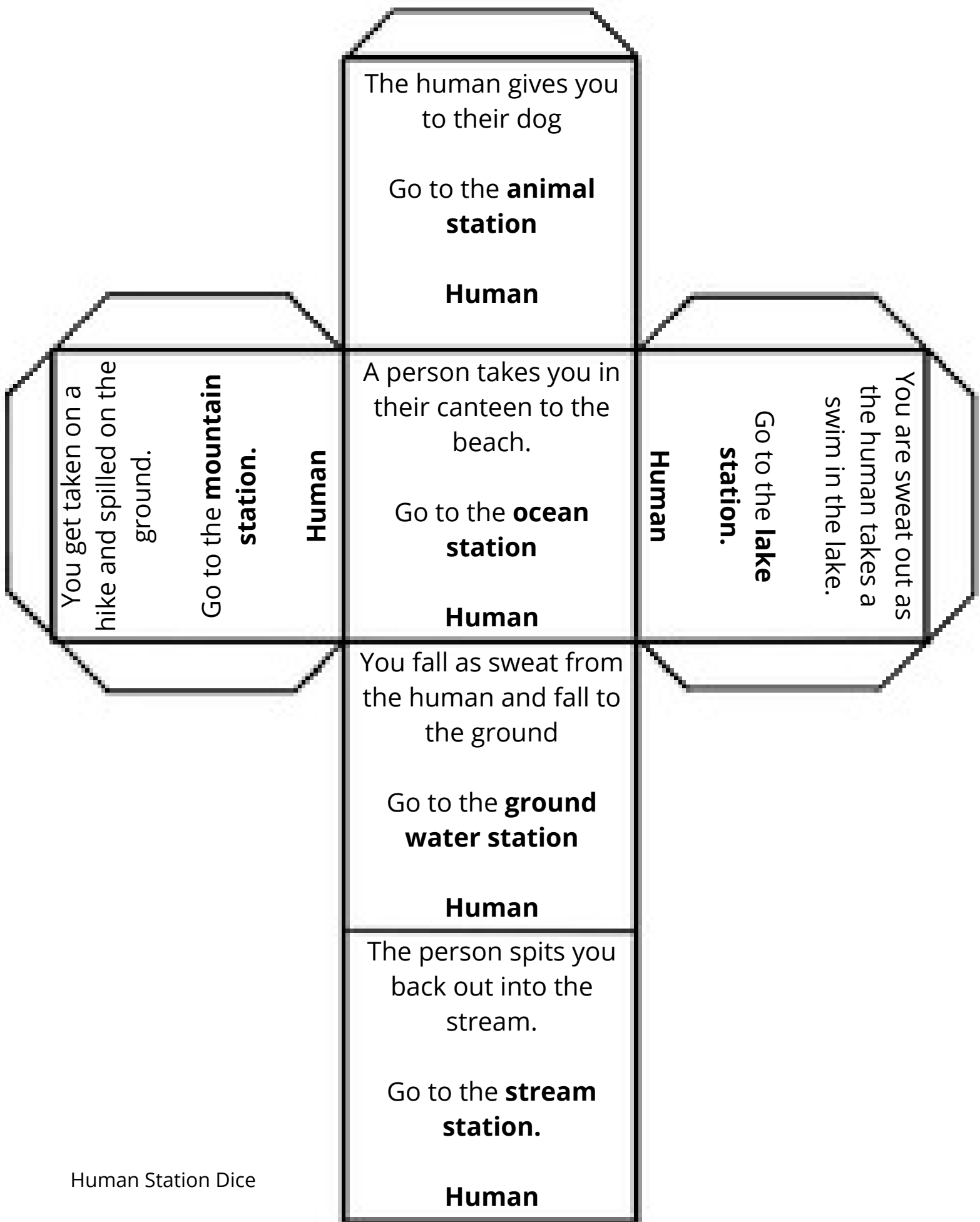
Groundwater



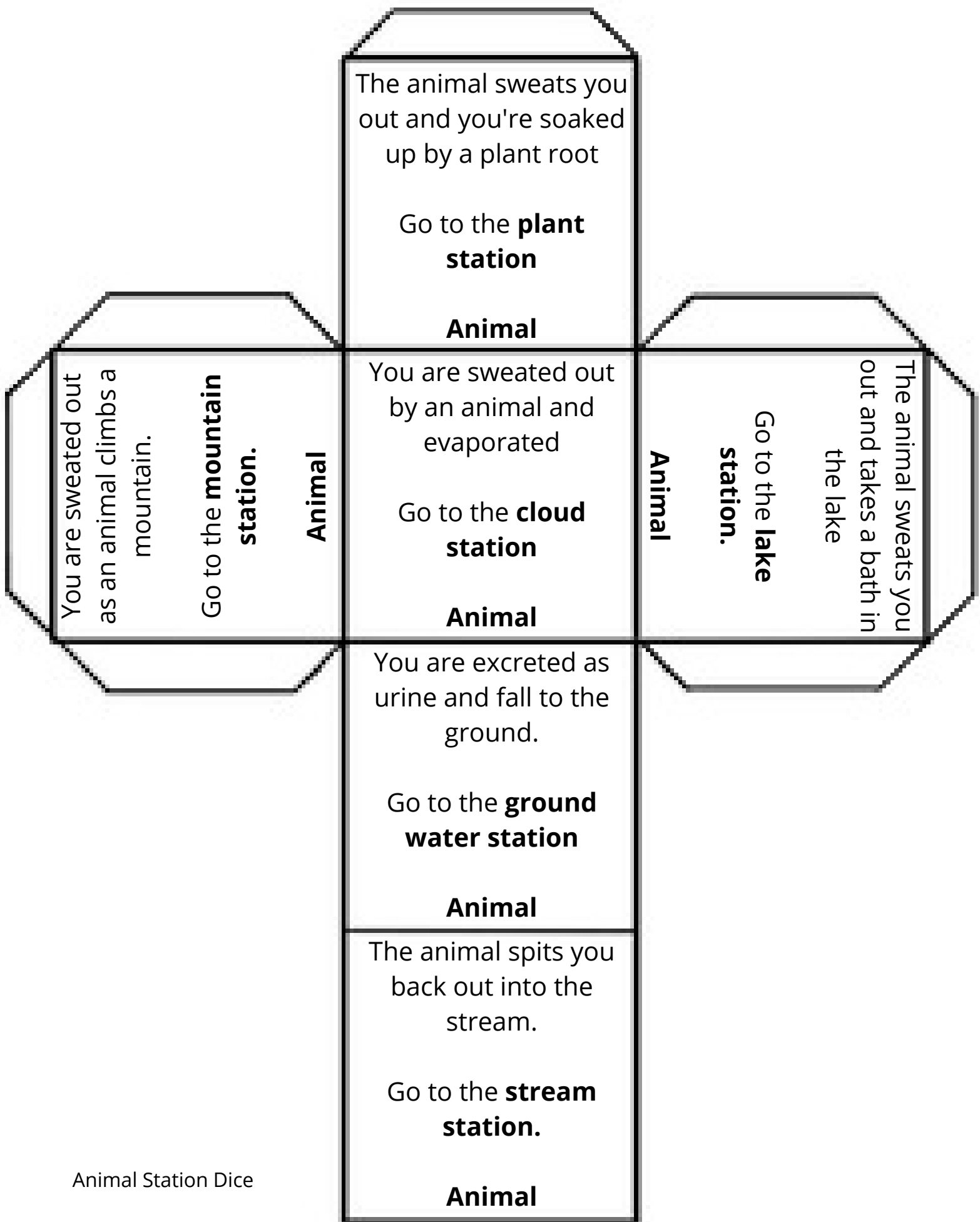
Water Cycle Station



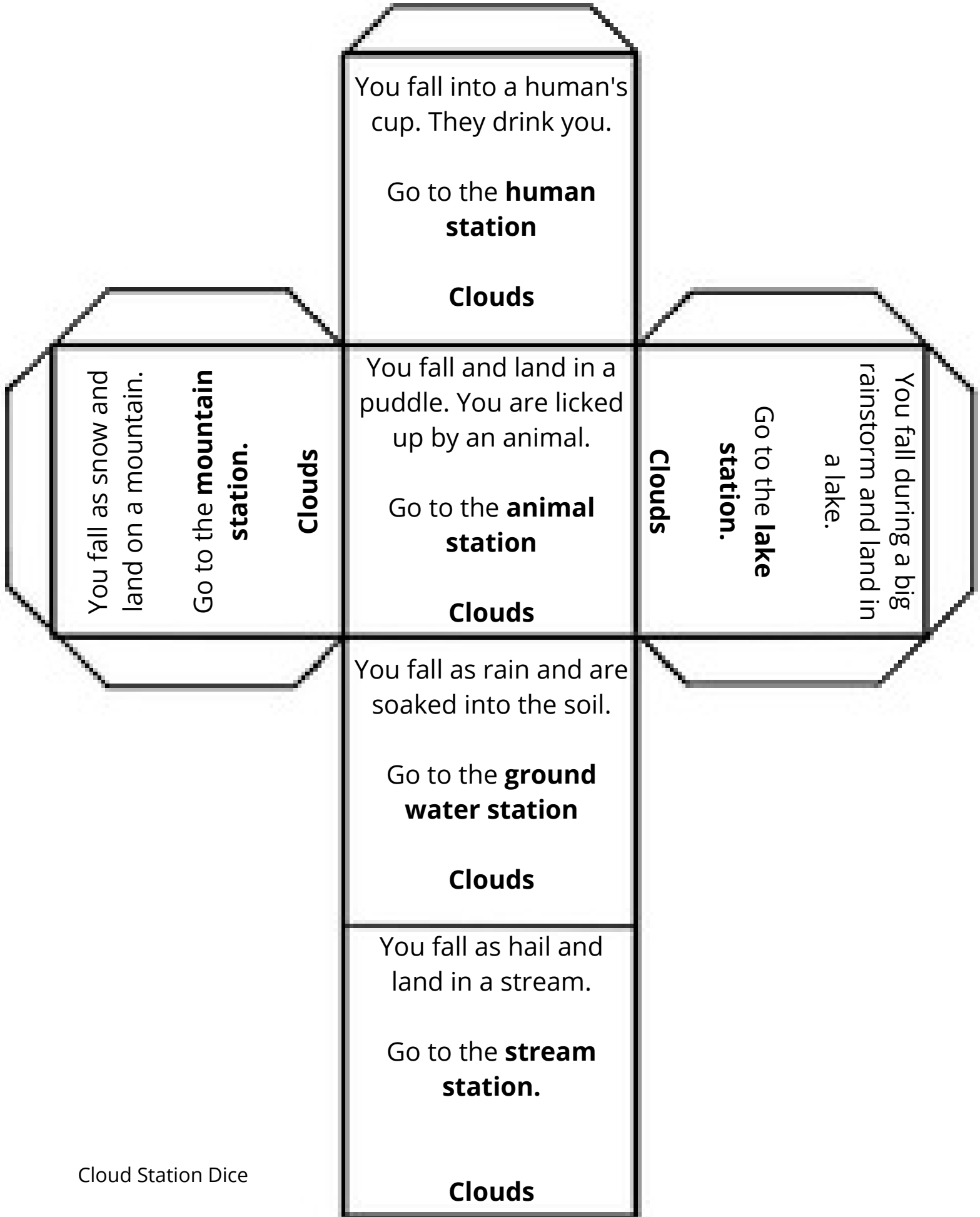
Lake Station Dice



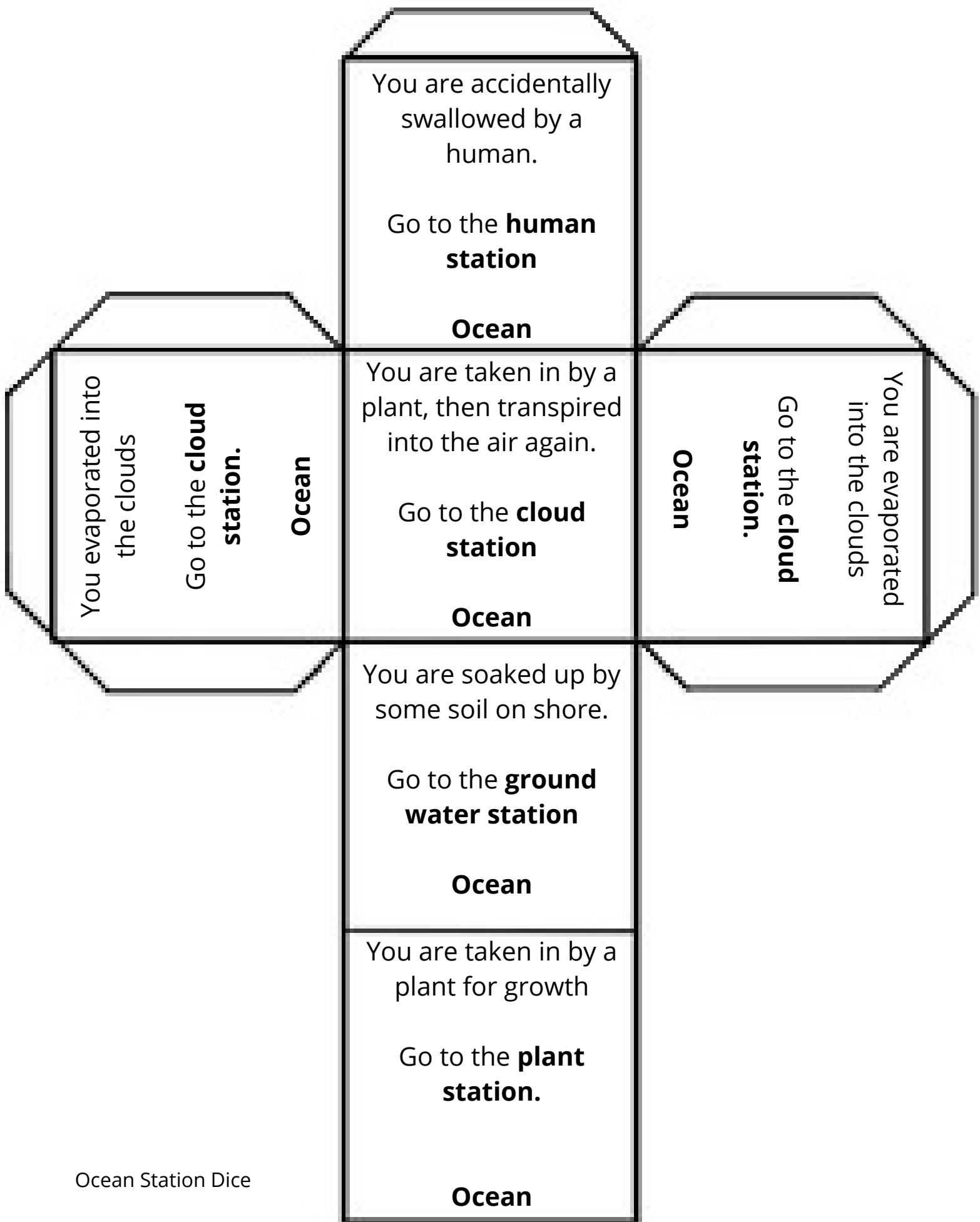
Human Station Dice



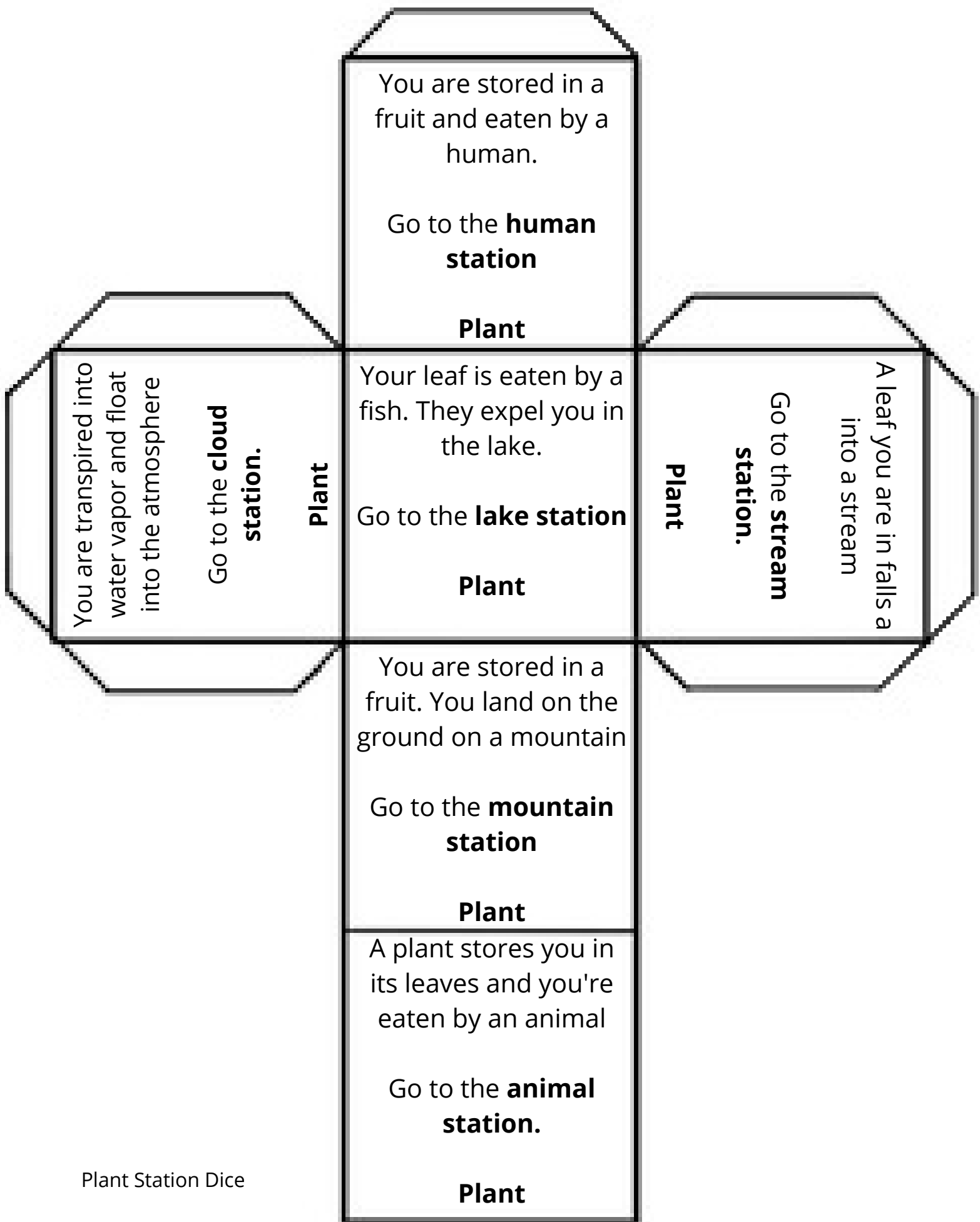
Animal Station Dice



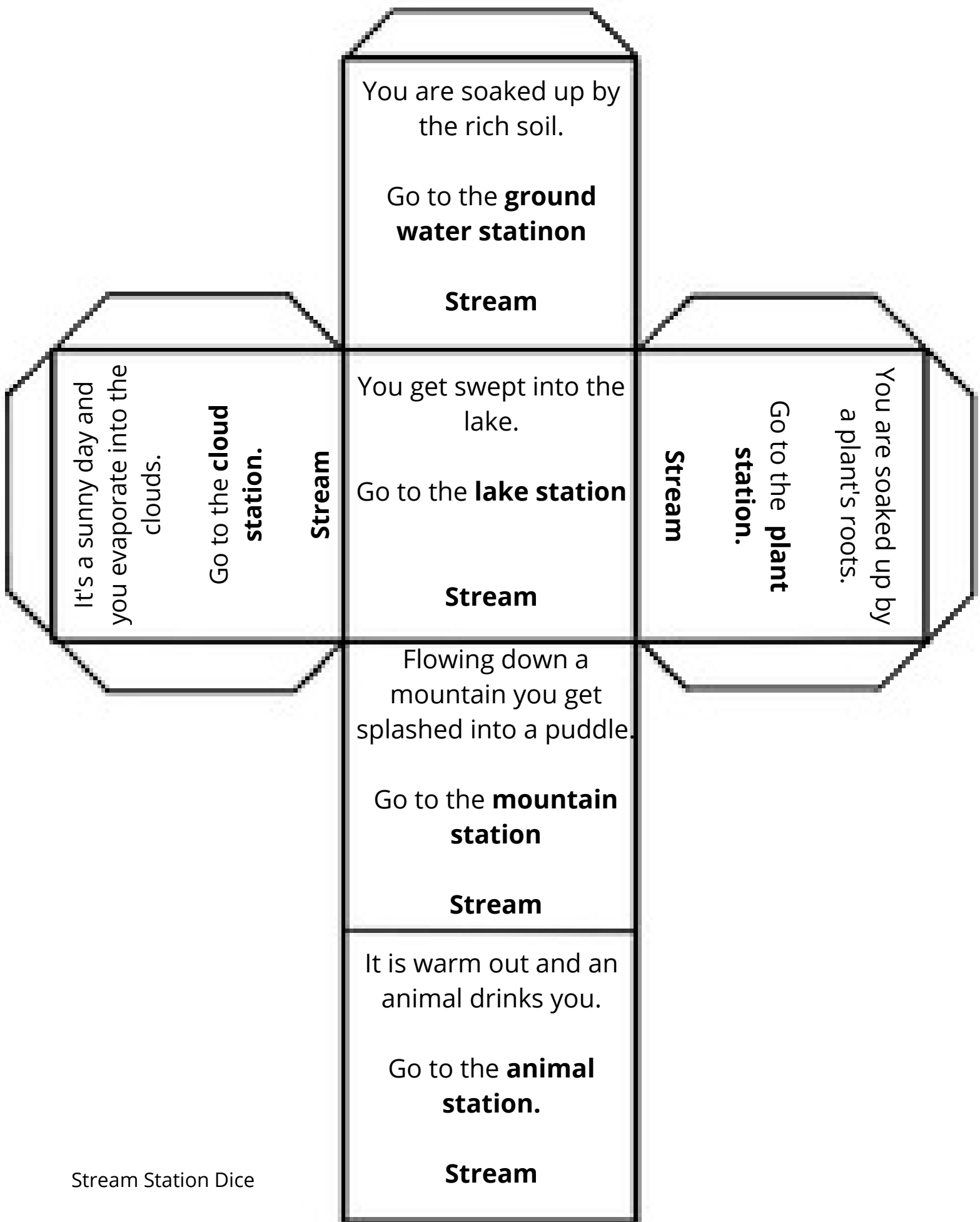
Cloud Station Dice



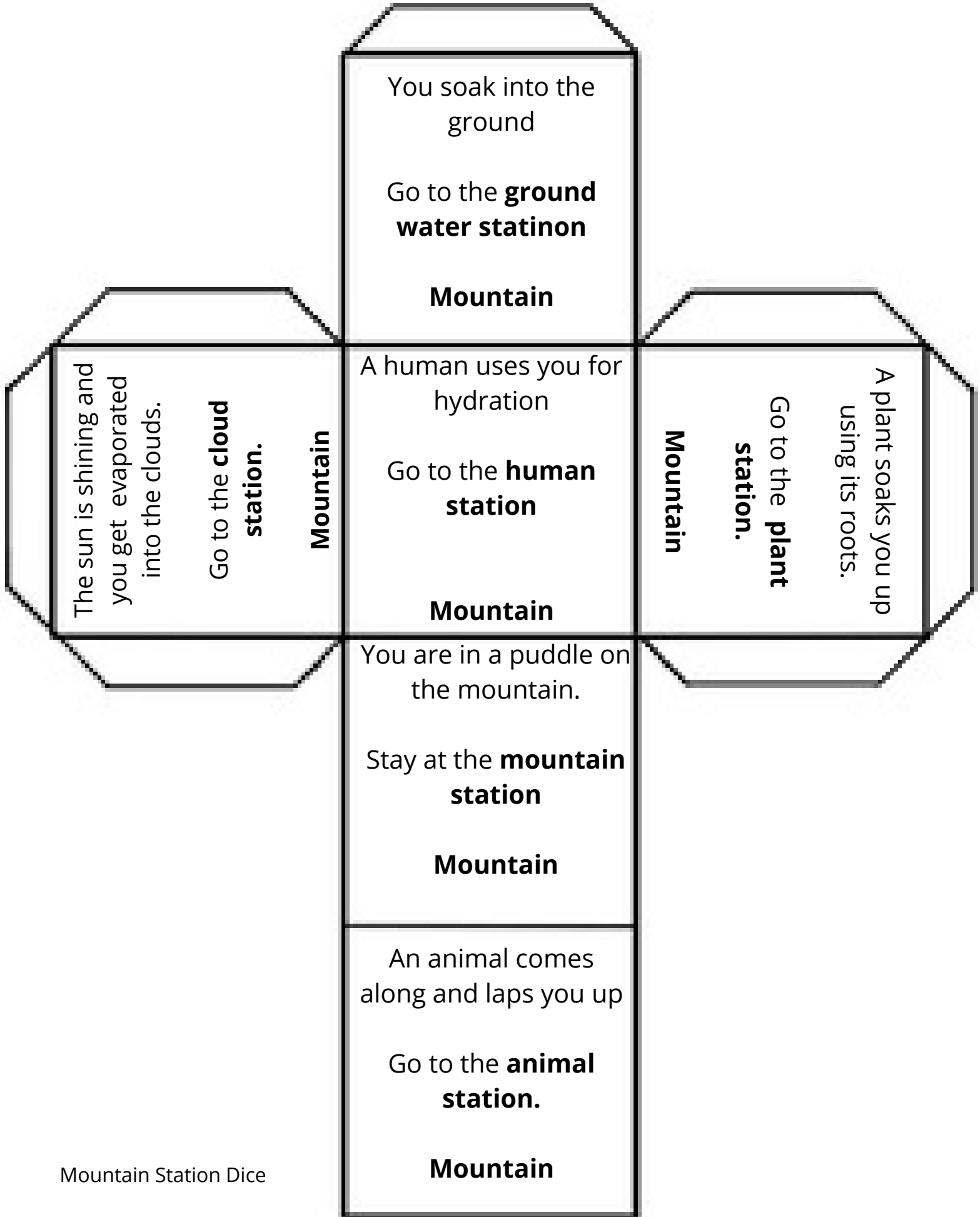
Ocean Station Dice



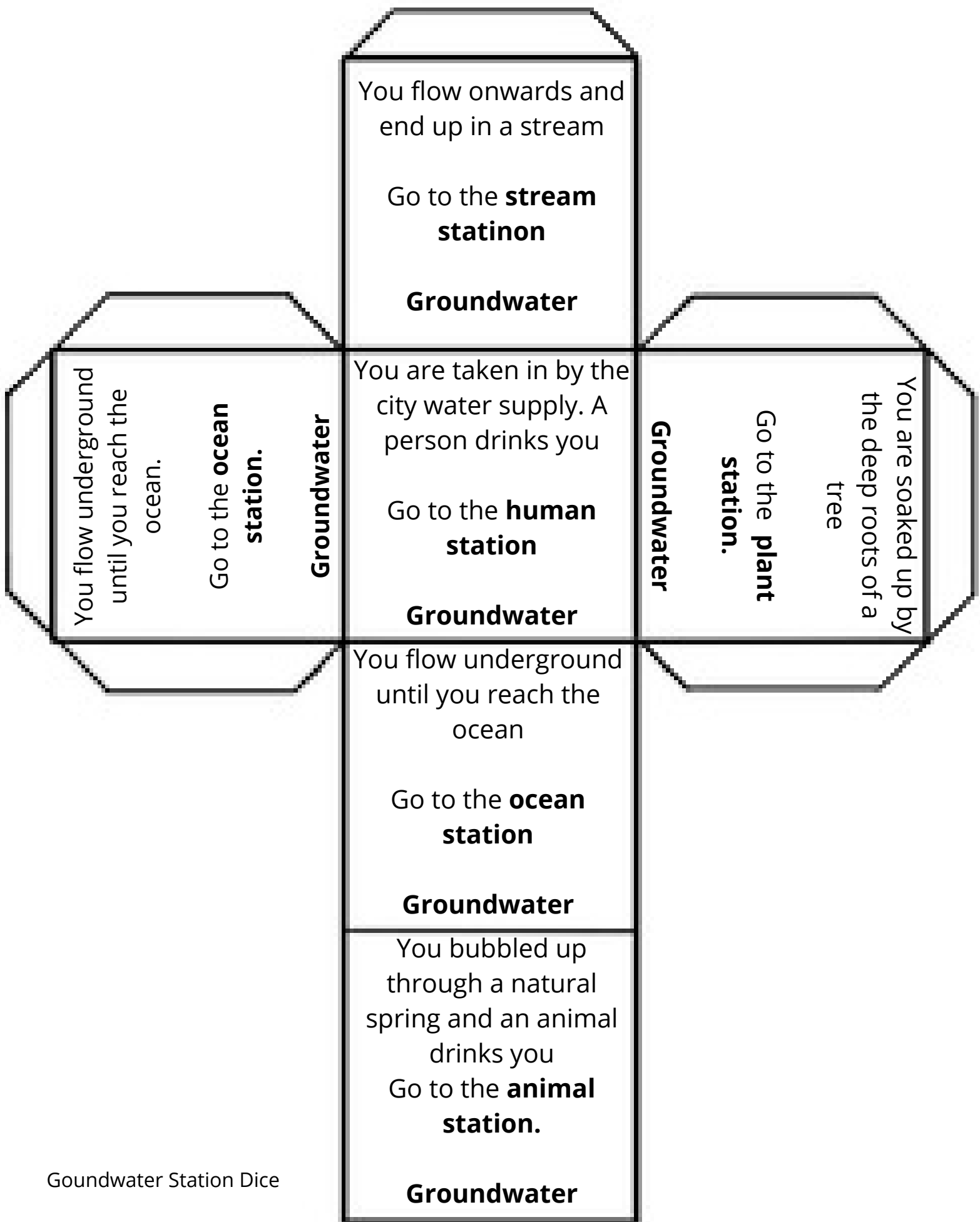
Plant Station Dice



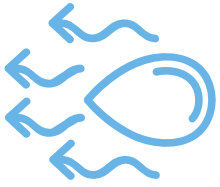
Stream Station Dice



Mountain Station Dice

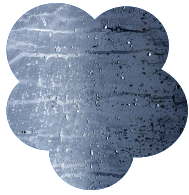


Goundwater Station Dice



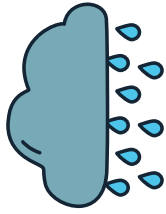
Evaporation

When water heats up it becomes a gas. This is called **water vapor**. As water turns into **water vapor** it rises into the sky.



Condensation

When the water vapor cools down it turns into liquid droplets again. In the sky, these water droplets mix with dust to form **clouds**.



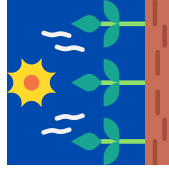
Precipitation

Eventually, a cloud gets so heavy it can't hold all the rain droplets together anymore. The water droplets begin to fall back to the earth causing it to rain or snow!



Collection

Once the water droplets fall back to earth they end up in a variety of places. Water droplets might end up getting collected in the ocean, a river, a pond, or sinking down into the ground.



Transpiration

Plants release water through their leaves, using a process called **transpiration**. Plants have very tiny holes, called **pores**, on their leaves that open up to release the water. You don't see the water that plants release through their leaves because it comes out as water vapor.

Water
Cycle
Words to
Know

Water Cycle Autobiography

Name:

Draw a comic that tells the story of your life as a water droplet going through the water cycle. Use the events on your tracking sheet to help you create your story.
