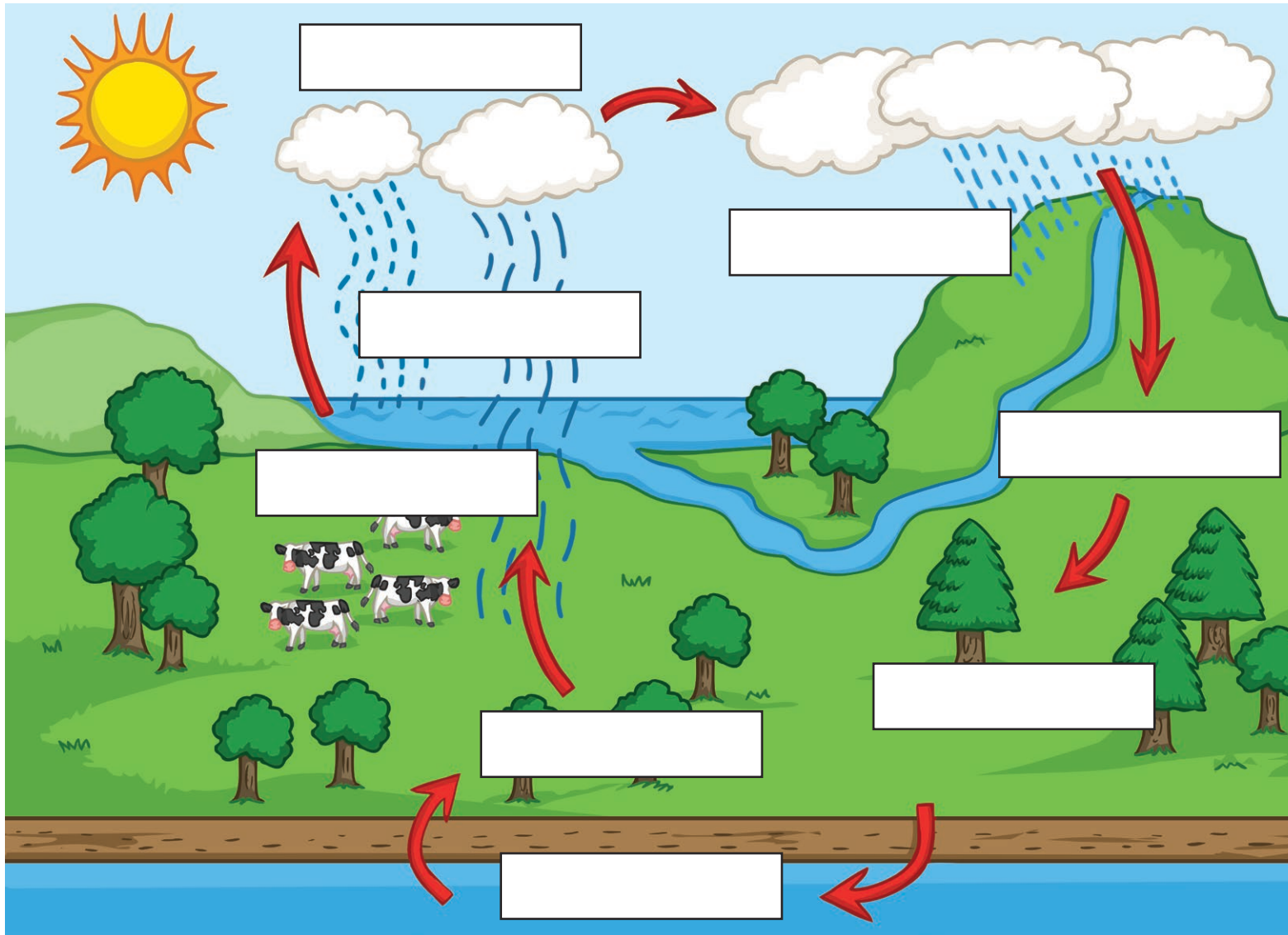


The Water Cycle



Add the words to the diagram:

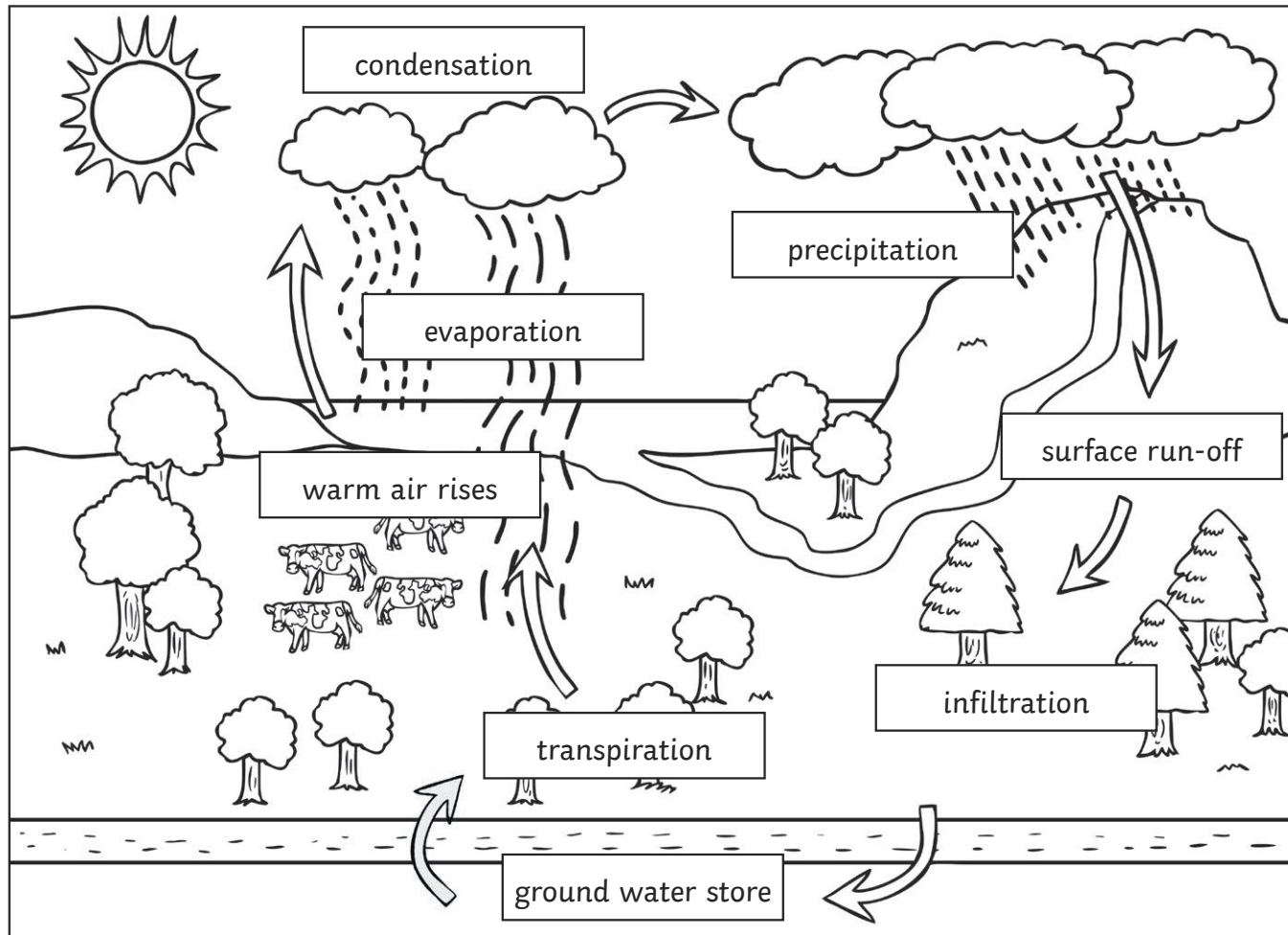
- evaporation
- transpiration
- warm air rises
- condensation
- precipitation
- surface run-off
- infiltration
- ground water store

When you have finished, use this diagram and your key terms sheet to write a paragraph describing the water cycle.

Start like this:

Water from the sea (or a similar body) is warmed by the Sun...

The Water Cycle - Answers



Water is collected in seas, streams, lakes or rivers.

When the sun heats the surface of a water collection, some of the water (liquid) changes state to water vapour (gas) as it mixes with the air. This is known as **evaporation**.

At the same time, water moves through plants and leaves. They expel water into the air through the stoma. This is known as **transpiration**.

During the evaporation stage, **warm air rises** so the water vapours rise too.

Condensation happens as the warm air cools down so the water vapour condenses back into a liquid, known as water droplets. The water droplets join together to form clouds.

The collection of water droplets in the clouds grow bigger, until they are too heavy. **Precipitation** happens as the water droplets fall from the clouds as rain. If the air is cold enough, these droplets will fall as hail or snow.

When the water falls to the ground, it will move across the land as **surface run-off** and either soak into the soil to become groundwater, (a process known as **infiltration**), or collect in seas, streams, lakes or rivers.

Ground water store (or similar body) is then warmed by the sun to recycle the water again.