

WALKING THROUGH THE WATER CYCLE

CHILDREN WILL DESCRIBE THE MOVEMENT OF WATER WITHIN THE WATER CYCLE WITH THIS ACTIVITY.

MATERIALS:

ONE SET OF WATER CYCLE POSTERS (PROVIDED)

9 CUBES (PATTERNS PROVIDED)

WATER CYCLE TABLE (PROVIDED)

ACTIVITY:

PLACE THE NINE WATER CYCLE POSTERS AND THEIR CUBES IN DIFFERENT AREAS AROUND YOUR HOME.

THE CHILD WILL NEED TO PICK ONE OF THE NINE STATIONS AND WRITE DOWN THE NAME OF THE STATION (CLOUDS, PLANTS, ANIMALS, RIVERS, OCEANS, LAKES, GROUND WATER, SOIL, OR GLACIERS) ON THEIR PAPER.

THE CHILD WILL THEN ROLL THE DIE AND PROCEED TO THE STATION NUMBER THAT IT SIGNIFIES. IF THE CHILD ROLLS THE STATION NUMBER THAT HE/SHE IS CURRENTLY AT, THEY ARE TO WRITE DOWN THE NAME OF THAT STATION ONCE AGAIN.

IN ESSENCE, A ROLL OF THE DIE DETERMINES WHERE WATER WILL TRAVEL DURING THIS JOURNEY. HAVE THE CHILD ROLL A TOTAL OF TEN DICE AND RECORD THEIR PATH. THEN, HAVE THEM START OVER AT THE SAME STATION AND GO THROUGH ANOTHER TEN STEPS. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE CHILD WILL RECORD THE SAME PATH!

AFTER GOING THROUGH TWO COMPLETE JOURNEYS, PROVIDE THE WATER CYCLE TABLE (PROVIDED) AND INSTRUCT THE CHILD TO WRITE THEIR JOURNEY THROUGH THE ENVIRONMENT. HAVE THEM IDENTIFY ANY CYCLES THEY MAY HAVE ENCOUNTERED.

EXPLANATION:

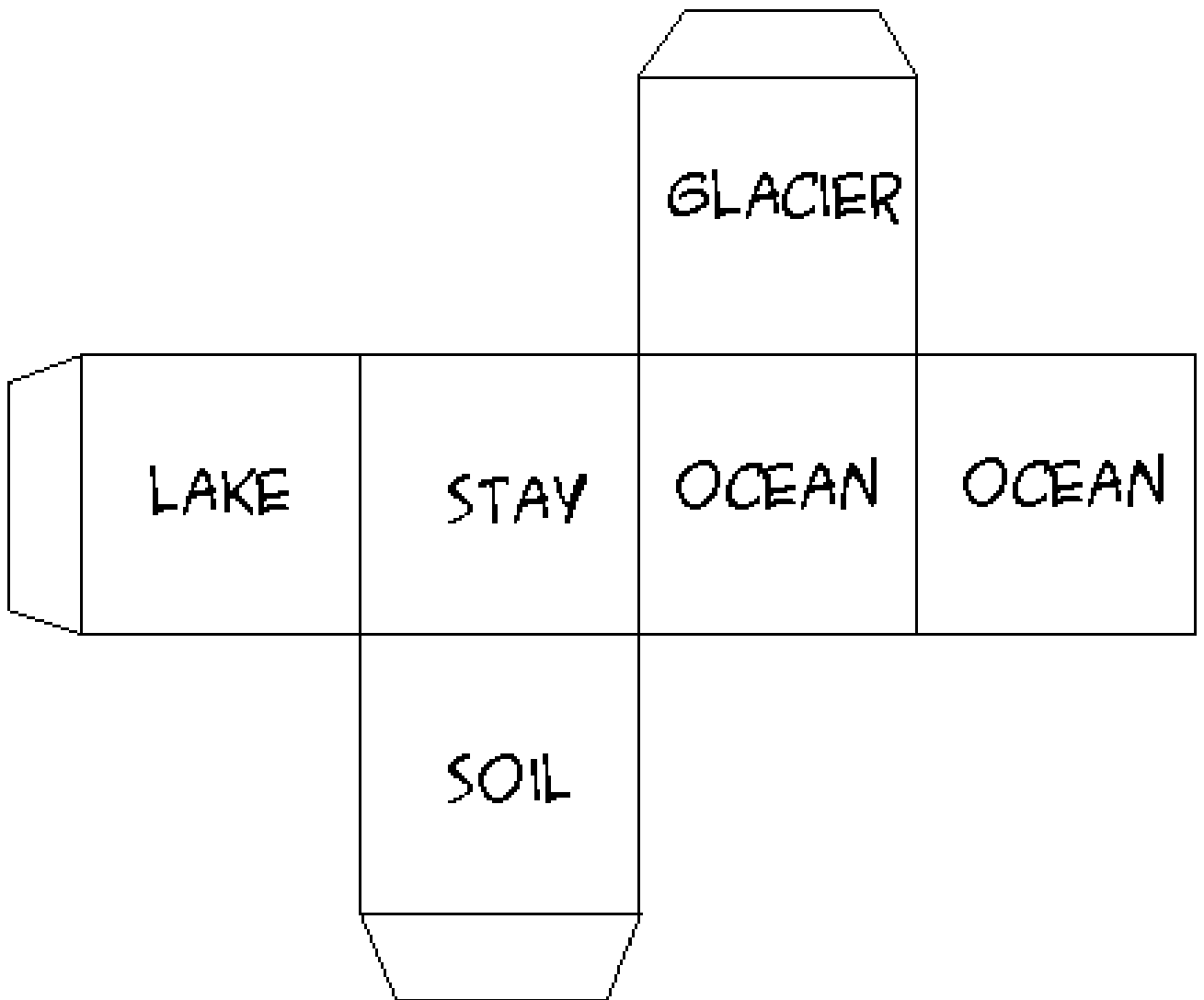
THE PATH OF WATER THROUGHOUT THE ENVIRONMENT IS VARIABLE. WHILE CHANGING BETWEEN SOLID, LIQUID AND GASEOUS FORMS, WATER MOVES THROUGH THE EARTH, THE ATMOSPHERE AND LIVING CREATURES. WITHOUT WATER, LIFE WOULD NOT EXIST.

WATER CYCLE TABLE

STATION	DIE SIDE LABELS	EXPLANATION
Soil	one side <i>plant</i>	Water is absorbed by plant roots.
	one side <i>river</i>	The soil is saturated, so water runs off into a river.
	one side <i>ground water</i>	Water is pulled by gravity; it filters into the soil.
	two sides <i>clouds</i>	Heat energy is added to the water, so the water evaporates and goes to the clouds.
	one side <i>stay</i>	Water remains on the surface (perhaps in a puddle, or adhering to a soil particle).
Plant	four sides <i>clouds</i>	Water leaves the plant through the process of transpiration.
	two sides <i>stay</i>	Water is used by the plant and stays in the cells.
River	one side <i>lake</i>	Water flows into a lake.
	one side <i>ground water</i>	Water is pulled by gravity; it filters into the soil.
	one side <i>ocean</i>	Water flows into the ocean.
	one side <i>animal</i>	An animal drinks water.
	one side <i>clouds</i>	Heat energy is added to the water, so the water evaporates and goes to the clouds.
	one side <i>stay</i>	Water remains in the current of the river.
Clouds	one side <i>soil</i>	Water condenses and falls on soil.
	one side <i>glacier</i>	Water condenses and falls as snow onto a glacier.
	one side <i>lake</i>	Water condenses and falls into a lake.
	two sides <i>ocean</i>	Water condenses and falls into the ocean.
	one side <i>stay</i>	Water remains as a water droplet clinging to a dust particle.
Ocean	two sides <i>clouds</i>	Heat energy is added to the water, so the water evaporates and goes to the clouds.
	four sides <i>stay</i>	Water remains in the ocean.
Lake	one side <i>ground water</i>	Water is pulled by gravity; it filters into the soil.
	one side <i>animal</i>	An animal drinks water.
	one side <i>river</i>	Water flows into a river.
	one side <i>clouds</i>	Heat energy is added to the water, so the water evaporates and goes to the clouds.
	two sides <i>stay</i>	Water remains within the lake or estuary.
Animal	two sides <i>soil</i>	Water is excreted through feces and urine.
	three sides <i>clouds</i>	Water is respired or evaporated from the body.
	one side <i>stay</i>	Water is incorporated into the body.
Ground Water	one side <i>river</i>	Water filters into a river.
	two sides <i>lake</i>	Water filters into a lake.
	three sides <i>stay</i>	Water stays underground.
Glacier	one side <i>ground water</i>	Ice melts and water filters into the ground.
	one side <i>clouds</i>	Ice evaporates and water goes to the clouds (sublimation).
	one side <i>river</i>	Ice melts and water flows into a river.
	three sides <i>stay</i>	Ice stays frozen in the glacier.

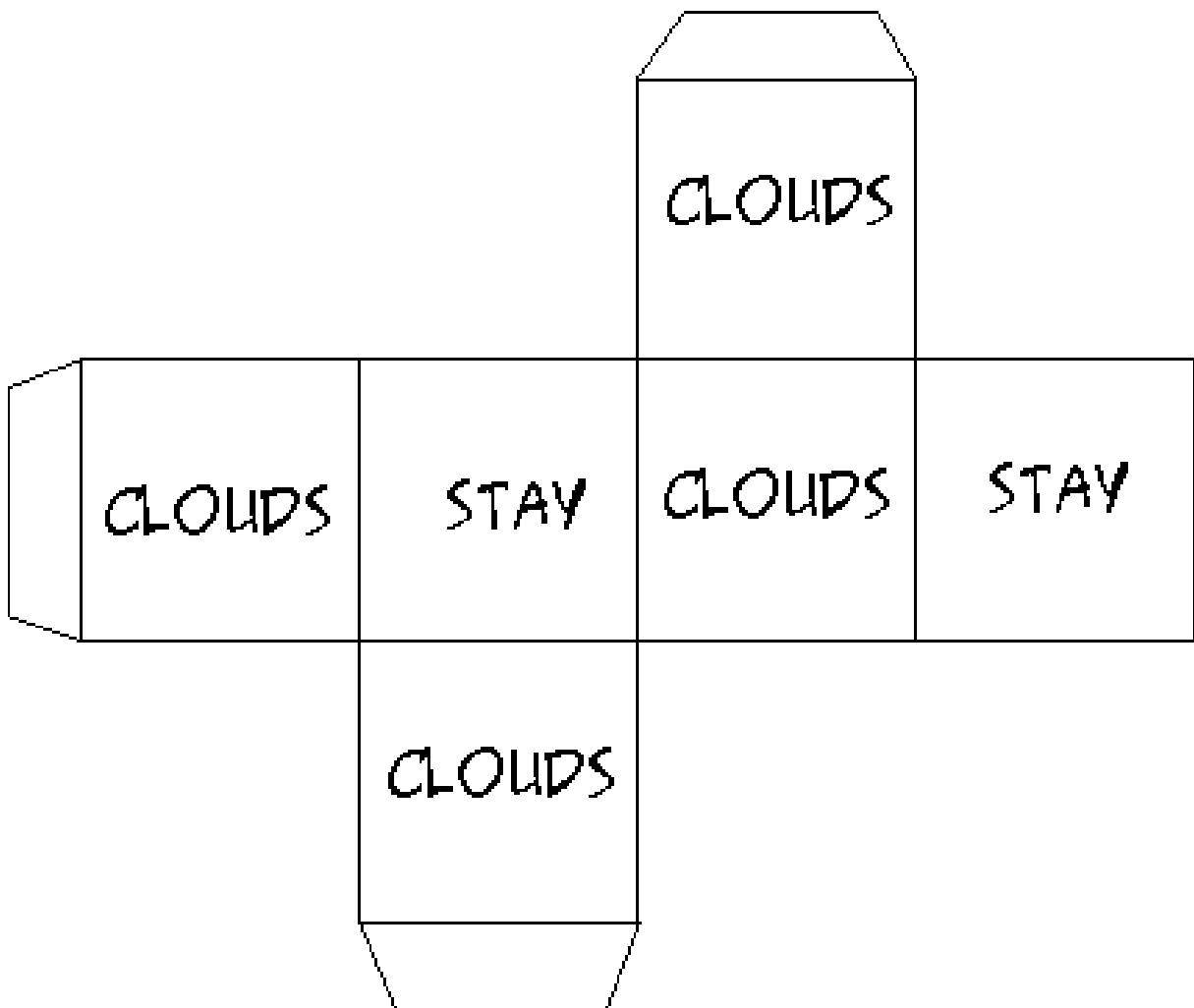
CLOUDS

CUT OUT THE PATTERN BELOW



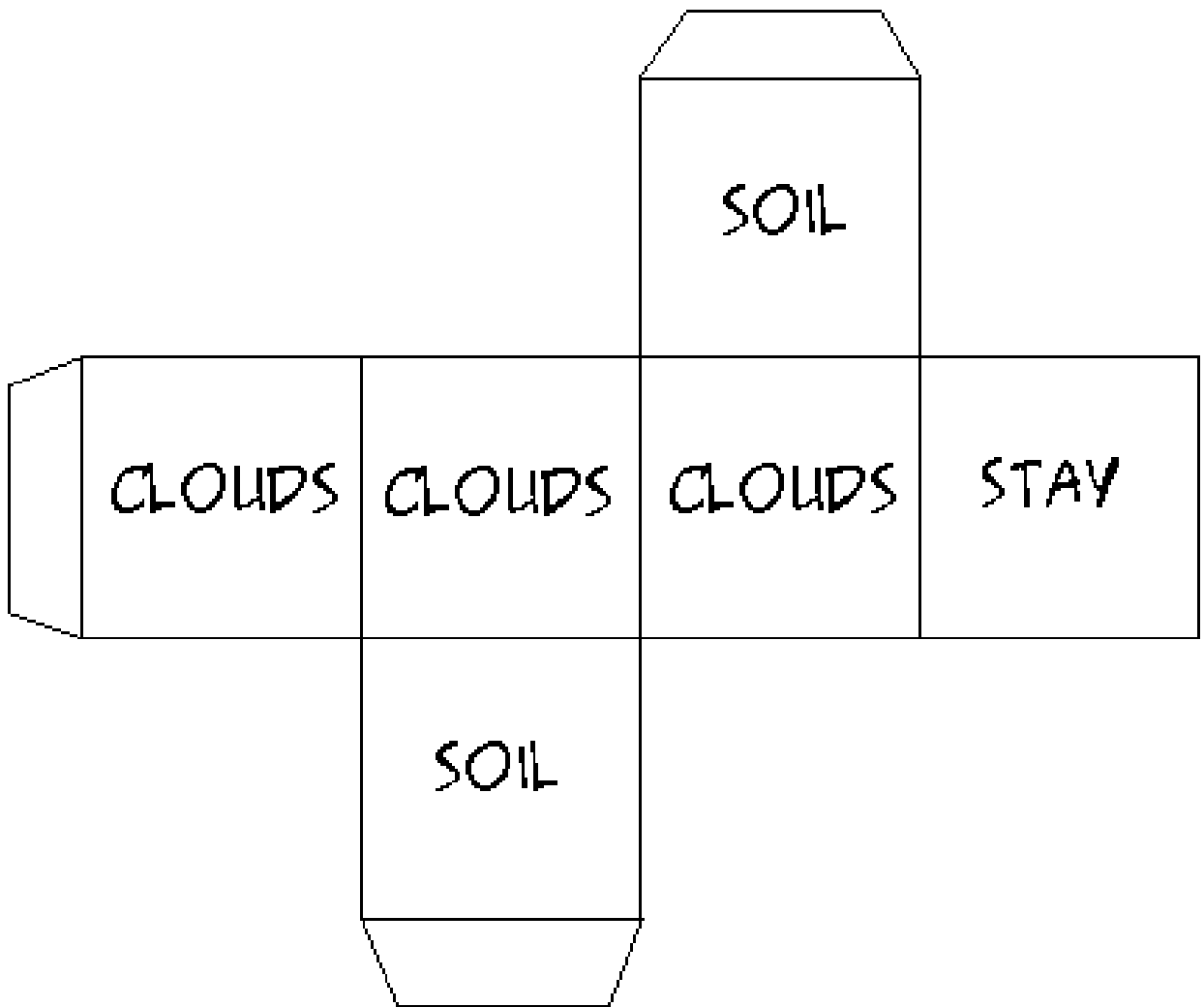
PLANTS

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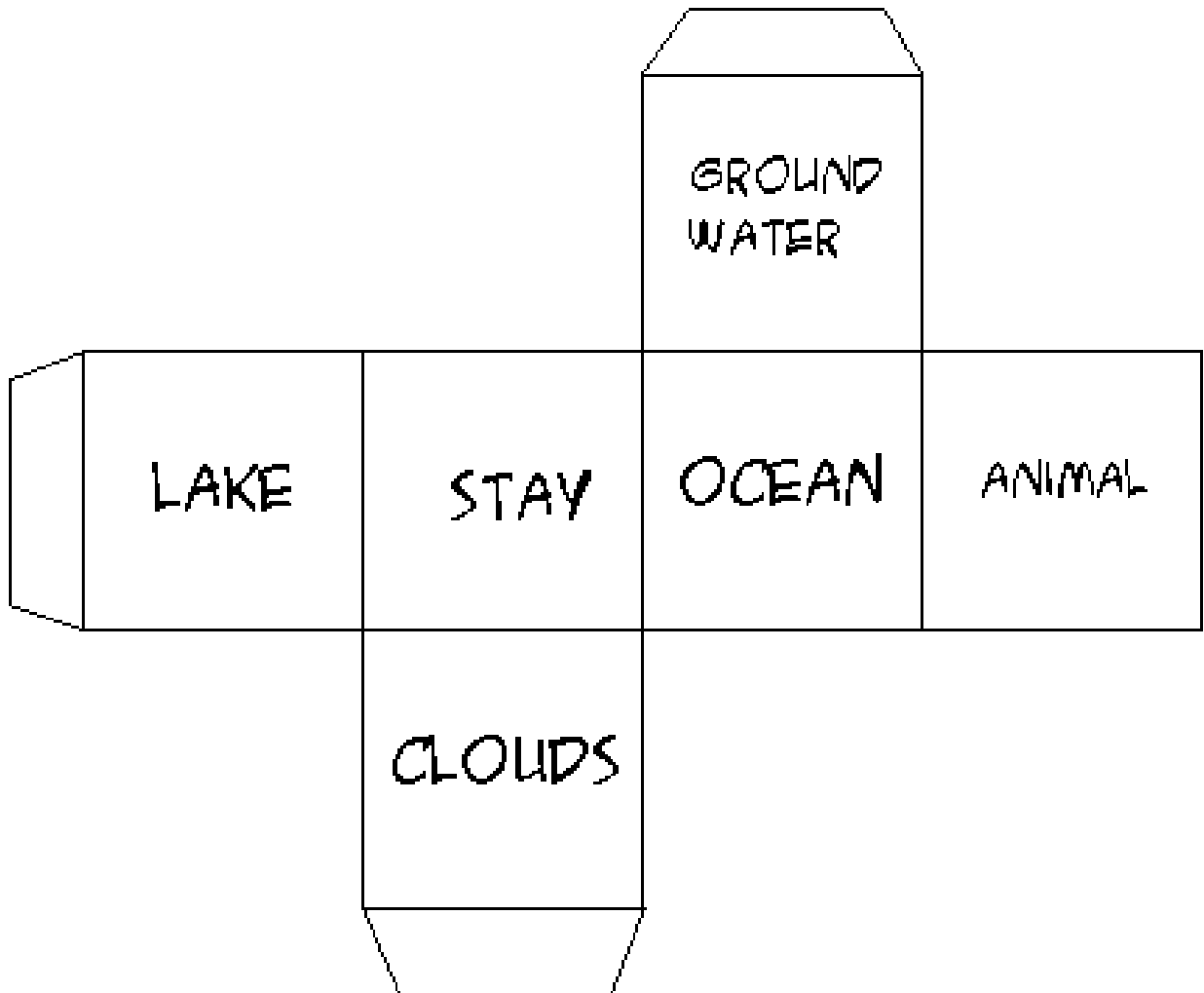
ANIMALS

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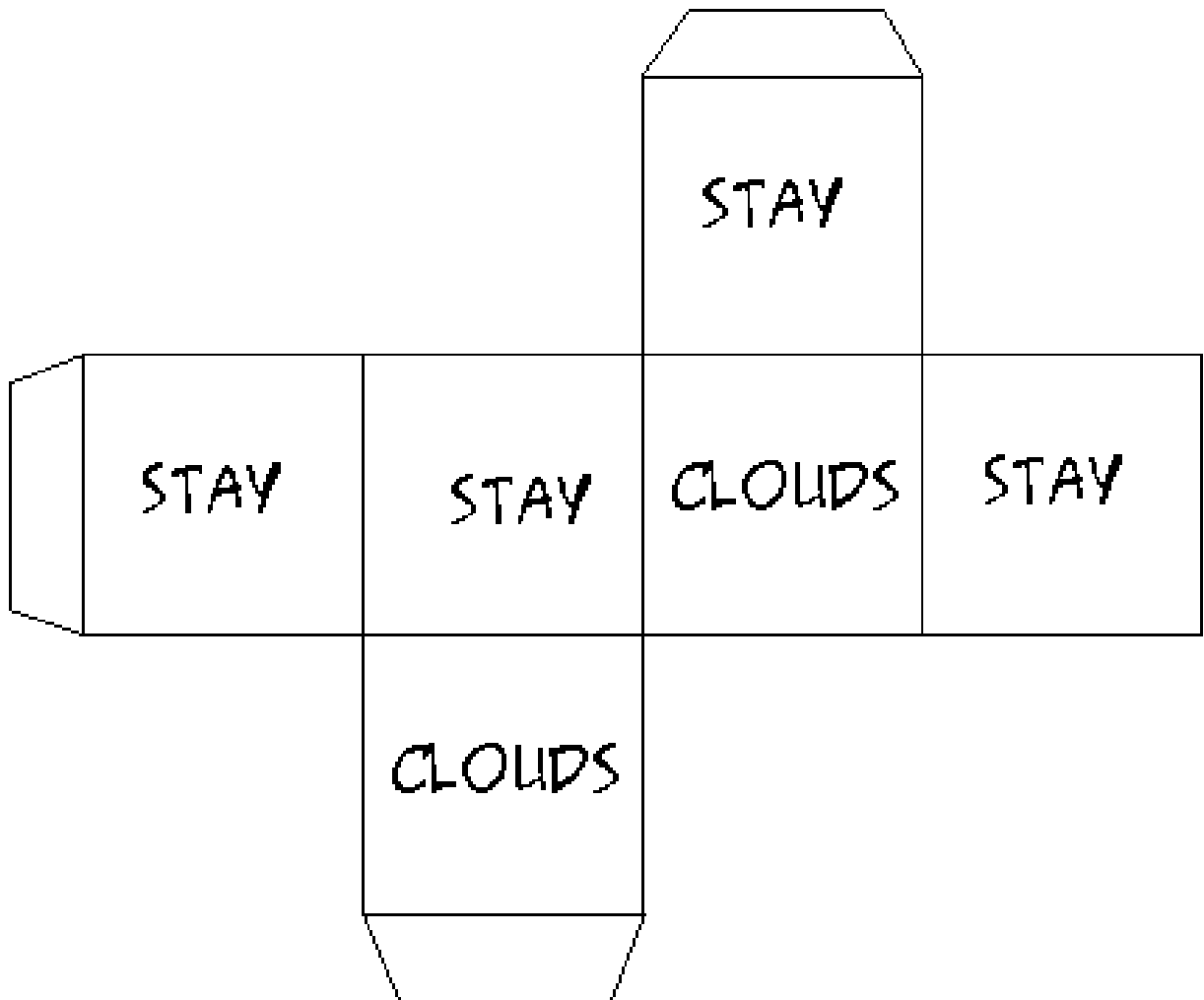
RIVERS

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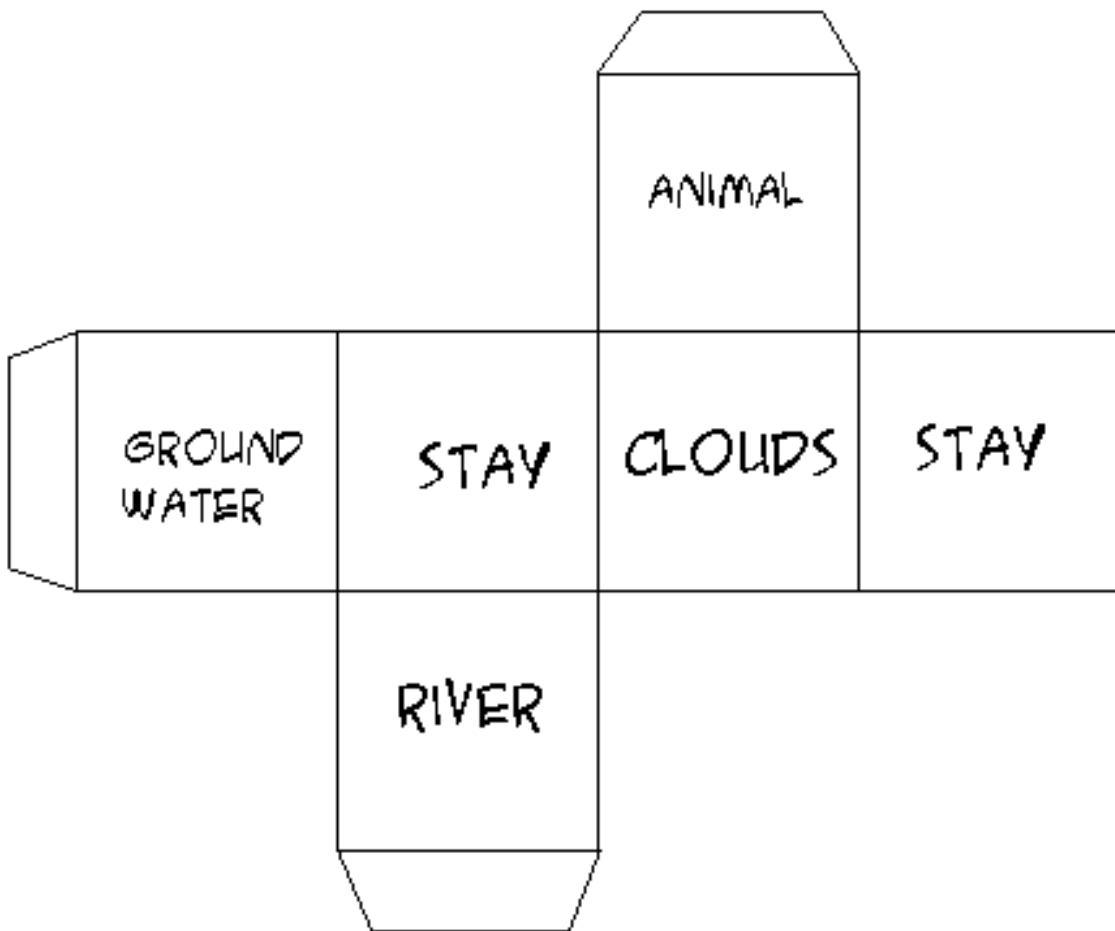
OCEANS

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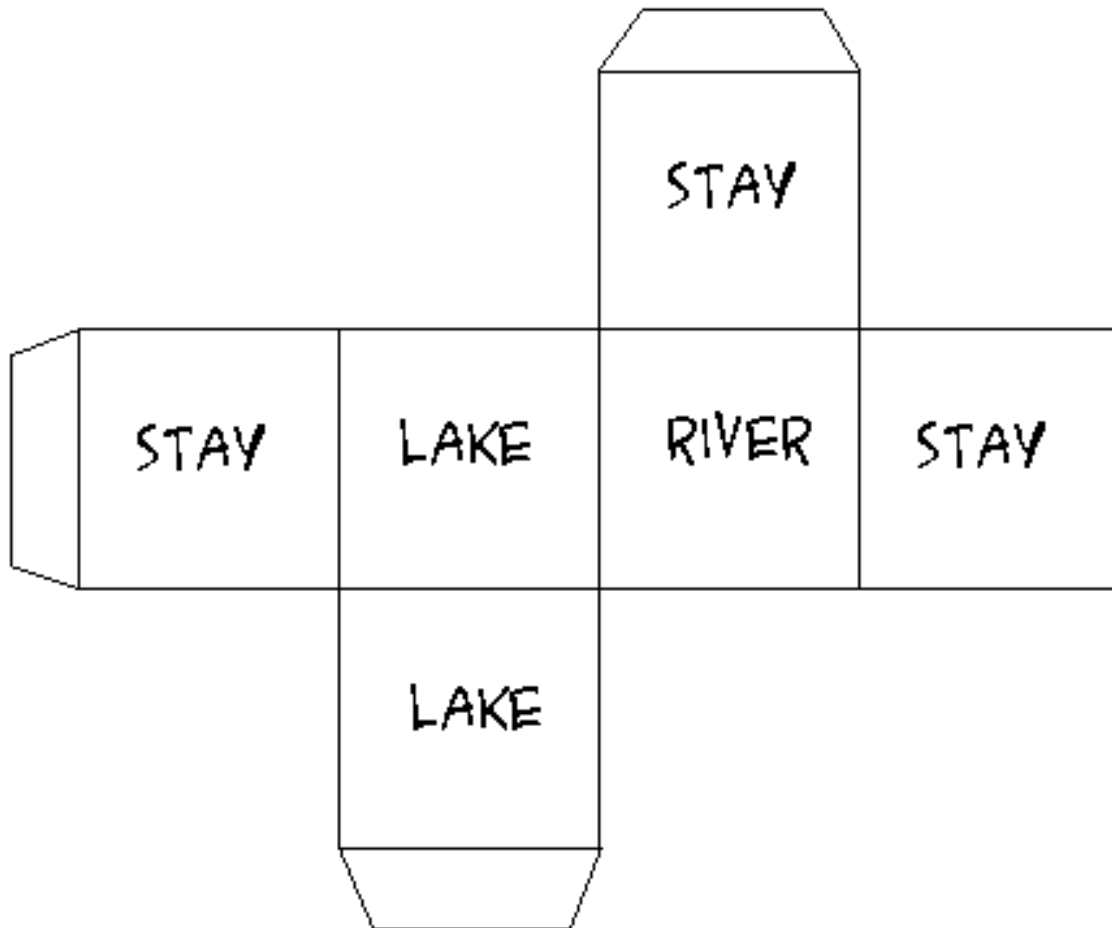
LAKEES

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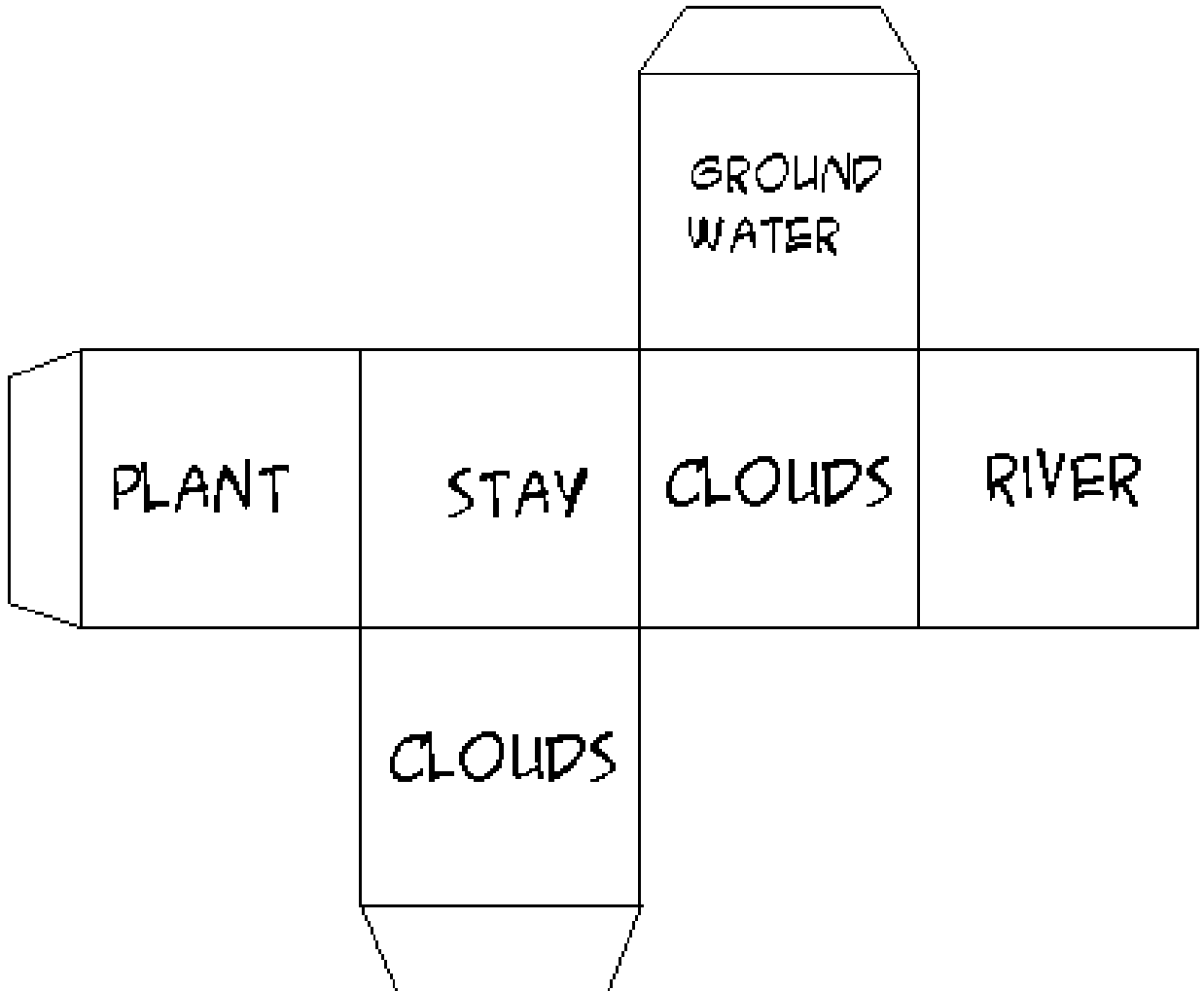
GROUND WATER

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SOIL

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GLACIERS

CUT OUT THE PATTERN BELOW

