

Witnessing Evaporation Worksheet **Answers**

1. Enter the weights (and units) of each pan in the chart below.

Pan	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
A (soil & plants)					
B (soil)					
C (water only)					

2. Graph your results

Make a line graph of the pan data you collected.

- Use a separate piece of **graph paper**.
- Write the **days of the experiment** (Days 1-5) on the X-axis.
- Write the **weight** (include the units) on the Y-axis.
- Graph all three pans on the same graph by using a **different color** for each line.
- Remember to include a graph **legend or key**.

3. Which pan(s) lost the most water? Why?

Answer: Pans B and C were affected ONLY by evaporation. Pan A lost the most water because it was affected by both evaporation AND transpiration.

4. What would happen in Thirsty County if precipitation occurred a lot more than evaporation or transpiration?

Answer: Excess water would soak down into the ground water system — a part of the water cycle often forgotten — or run off into streams and lakes.

5. What do the county’s farmers call a long dry period during which not enough precipitation occurs to match the evaporation and transpiration?

Answer: A drought or a dry season.

6. What can Thirsty County farmers do to save their crops?

Answer: They can irrigate, the way we sprinkle our lawns, or use mulch, which slows evaporation from exposed soil.

7. Which reservoir will lose more water to evaporation: A reservoir in Arizona or a reservoir in New York? Why?

Answer: The reservoir in Arizona will evaporate more water because Arizona is generally hotter and drier than New York.

8. Why does Splash Engineering consider evaporation important in the operation of dams?

Answer: Evaporation is important because it is water that is lost from dams. Evaporated water will not be available for residents of Thirsty County to use.