Water Cycle Experiment: Condensation

This experiment must only be conducted with adult supervision.
Use very hot but not boiling water.

In this experiment you will see how clouds are formed when warm air is cooled.

You will need:

- A large glass jar
- A ruler
- A small metal baking tray
- Some ice cubes
- Some very hot (but not boiling) water

Now you need to:

1. Using the ruler, pour 2.5cm of hot water into the jar.

2. Place some ice cubes in the baking tray and put the tray on top of the jar.

3. As the air inside the jar rises and is cooled by the ice, the water vapour it contains condenses into droplets.

4. Observe how the warmer air causes the water to become vapour and evaporate. The water vapours condenses in the jar to form a “cloud”.

QUESTIONS:

What is the gas called which is present in the jar/what are clouds made of?

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Which two stages of the water cycle are happening in the jar?

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