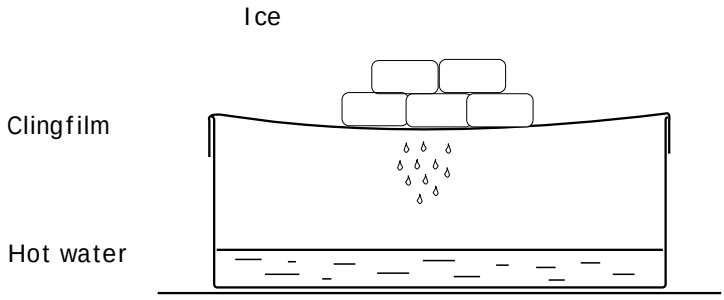
What happens if we use cold water and no ice?



Condensation and evaporation as part of the water cycle

(a) **Water vapour can condense to form water and this is the reverse of evaporation** This can either be a whole class or group demonstration. Set up a bowl of warm water, cover with a dish containing ice. As the water evaporates and hits the cold saucer, it condenses and 'rains'.

(b) Repeat the activity using cooler water, which just takes longer to work. Discuss this with the children. Water does not need to be hot to evaporate and condense, but the process is faster with hot water.

(c) Small groups of children can have their own screw top jar with ice inside. After about 5 minutes condensation is seen on the outside of the jar, where water vapour in the air has cooled against the cold glass.

Some children have great difficulty with the concept of condensation and are convinced that the ice melts and goes through the jar or the saucer. Try using a very cold glass straight from the refrigerator and eliminate the ice.