

# A glacier's life cycle

## 1. BIRTH

Snowfall and snow compression at the top of the glacier cause ice accumulation

## 2. FROM SNOW TO ICE

Snowflakes are rounded and compressed by pressure until they become glacial ice

## 3. TRIBUTARIES

Smaller glaciers join the flow, causing the main glacier to grow in size

## 4. OUTFLOW AREA

The glacier loses ice and consistency because of the melting and evaporation

## 5. MELTING

The water from the melted stream flows out of the glacier through channels and tunnels

## 6. BREAKAGE

Ice blocks become detached at the front of the glacier and form icebergs

Source: World Glacier Monitoring Service.