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