

SNOWFLAKE STUDY

an Outdoor Science Activity

CONTRIBUTED BY:
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LESSON SUMMARY:

After researching and learning about snowflakes in the classroom, students head outside to catch snowflakes and study them with magnifying glasses.

GRADE LEVEL STANDARDS:

This activity can be connected to science, math, language and reading grade level standards.

PROCEDURE, INSIDE:

Read-alouds:

-Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and Mary Azarian

-The Story of Snow by Mark Cassino and Jon Nelson, Ph.D

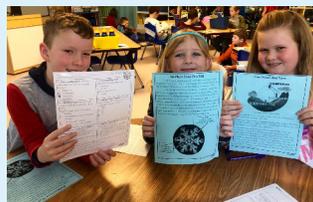
-Wonderful Winter by Bruce Goldstone



Research scientific information by reading and comparing informational texts:

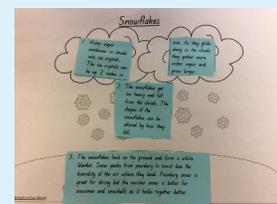
-"Bentley's Snow Crystals"

-"How Snowflakes Form"



Study the water cycle in order to understand what causes snowflakes to form.

Create a cut and paste diagram to illustrate the concept.



CONTINUED...

PROCEDURE, OUTSIDE:

Snowflake Study:

1. Place black paper (one per student) in the freezer for at least 2 hours prior to activity.
2. Head outside during a light snowfall! Use the frozen black paper to catch the dendrites and snowflake plates. Observe the dendrites and snowflake plates with magnifying glasses.
3. Discussion questions:
 - a. Why did we put the black paper in the freezer beforehand?
 - b. Why do the snow crystals we see have different sizes and shapes?
 - c. How do snowflakes form? Cause/Effect



MATERIALS:

- Black paper (one per student)
- Magnifying glasses (one per student)

 Find more activities for your classroom or for learning at home in our WinterKids GOAL Binder! Purchase a copy here:
<https://winterkids.org/product/winterkids-guide-to-active-outdoor-learning-goal/>