



Backyard and Beyond

Snow Day Science

Catching Snowflakes

What you need:

- Black or dark blue paper or fabric
- Magnifying glass (If you don't have a magnifier, you can try a free app like, Magnifying Glass with Light)
- A snowy day!

What you do:

- Put a small to medium size piece of black or dark blue paper or fabric in your freezer. Try to keep it as flat as possible.
- Next time it snows, take the chilled paper/fabric outside to catch snowflakes. Use your magnifying glass to look at the snowflakes closely. What do you notice?

Things to try:

Try drawing the snowflakes you catch. Start a snowflake journal and record data like the date, time of day, temperature, and how much snow accumulated overall. Challenge yourself to identify the different types of snowflakes you catch, using a guide like the one found at snowcrystals.com.



Melting Snowmen

What you need:

- Two pieces of fabric of equal size, one light-colored and one dark-colored (size can be determined by the amount of snow you have to experiment with)
- A sunny day with snow on the ground

What you do:

- Make two small, equal size snow people, or snow animals, snow piles, etc. Your snow creation should fit under your fabric.
- Cover one snow person with the dark colored fabric and the other snow person with the light-colored fabric.
- Periodically check on your snow people. What do you notice? Is one melting more quickly than the other?

Snow-in-a-Jar

What you need:

- A clear jar, can be plastic or glass
- A snowy day!

What you do:

- The next time it snows, fill a clear jar all the way to the top with snow.
- Bring it inside so the snow melts in the jar.
- How much of the jar does the water fill? What do you think is going on?