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S.T.E.M. Mo Newsletter

Newsletter developed by:
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Ice Fishing Science Experiment

Kids will love this fishing for ice cubes science project that can be done no matter the temperature outside.

Supplies

- Ice Cubes
- Glass of Water
- Salt
- Food Coloring (optional)
- String or Twine

****Before you actually get into the full experiment, have your kids attempt to use the string to fish for ice. What happens?**

STEP 1. Add half a dozen or so ice cubes to a cup and fill with water.

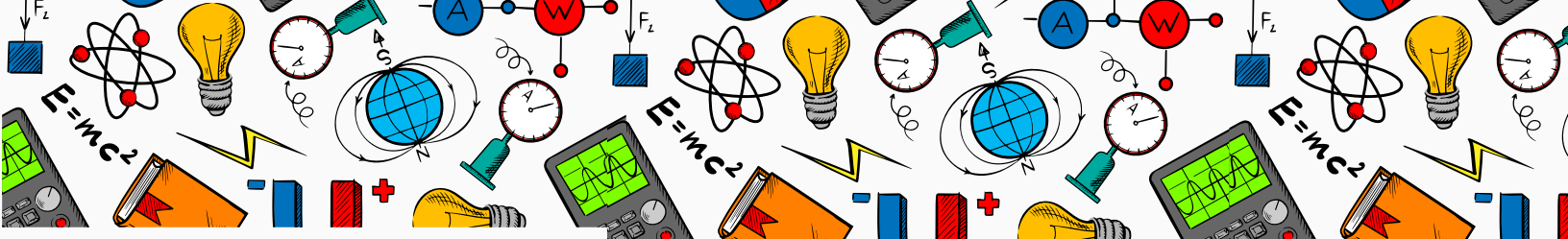
STEP 2. Lay the string over an ice cube.

STEP 3. Sprinkle salt over the string and ice. Wait 30-60 seconds.

STEP 4. Gently pull the string. The ice should come along with it!

There's a couple of things to keep in the back of your mind when you are doing this ice fishing experiment. First, the length of time the string sits on the ice can make a difference. Experiment with different time increments.

Second, the amount of salt used can affect the melting of the ice. Too much salt and the ice will melt too fast. Or too little time on the ice, the string won't have time to freeze to the cube! Measure the amounts of salt you use and compare.



Easy Snowball Launcher

Get the kids designing, engineering, testing, and exploring physics with easy-to-make snowball launcher winter STEM activity!

Supplies

- Balloons
- Hot glue gun and glue sticks (you can also try duct tape or any other heavy-duty tape)
- Small plastic cup
- Styrofoam balls (find other items to experiment with too including cotton balls, pompoms, balled up paper)

First, you will want to cut the bottom out of the plastic cup, but leave the rim for strength or else the cup will crumple. This is a good step for the adults to do and can be prepped ahead of time for larger groups! Make sure to trim off any jagged edges. Next, you want to tie a knot in the neck of a balloon.

Then you want to go ahead and cut the end off the balloon. (not the knotted end!)

Once you have that done, you will want to either tape or glue the balloon to the bottom (where you have cut the hole) of the cup.

Now to get ready for the snowball launching fun! Place the snowball in the cup. Pull down on the balloon's knot and release to watch the snowball fly. This is definitely a fun way to have a snowball fight indoors or even outside when there is no snow!

Turn it into an experiment by comparing different launch items to see what works best and flies the farthest. You can even take measurements and record data to extend the learning portion of this winter STEM activity.



Creativity is contagious,
pass it on!

-Albert Einstein



Site Reference: Little Bins, Little Hands

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/ice-fishing-winter-science/>

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/make-snowball-launcher-winter-stem-physics/>

Sites to checkout

Funology

<https://www.funology.com/>

I Game Mom

<https://igamemom.com/fun-snow-science-for-kids/>