



# Snowflake Shapes

KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 2

## LESSON DESCRIPTION

Get outside and try this science investigation! This activity is a great way for your students to interact with the elements outdoors. Depending on the size of your class, students can work together in groups or can independently search for different types of snow to dig up and observe.

## SUGGESTED CURRICULUM LINKS

Science

K-3-06, 1-4-07, 2-2-01, 2-2-14, 2-2-15, 2-4-03, 2-4-06, 2-4-07

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Snowflake Identification Chart](#)

## LESSON

Observe snowflakes to engage children with the wonder of winter and discover the properties of this wintry substance.

### Materials:

- Black construction paper or felt
- Cookie sheets
- Hand magnifiers
- Outdoor Thermometer
- Large serving spoons or trowels (optional)
- Snowflake identification chart

### Procedure:

- Line cookie sheets with black paper or fabric and leave them outside to cool for an hour before you go out for this activity.
- Take students to an area where snow is loose and deep. Have students dig with mittened hands and/or use spoons, serving spoons or trowels to scoop out snowflakes from different parts of the snow bank.

- Place the snow samples on the black cookie sheets and observe. Use magnifying glasses. You can also use a macro setting on a camera to get photos.
- Identify snowflake types. You will notice that melted snow and snow from the bottom of the snowbank have large sugar like crystals - this snow layer is called pukak in Inuktitut and is the warm layer near the ground which winter animals like voles travel through.
- Use the thermometer to determine whether the temperature at the bottom of the snowbank is warmer.
- If possible try collecting snow on a day when it is snowing. Observe the differences between these flakes and those collected from the snowbank.