

The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder

by Mark Cassino



R.E.D. Zone

A visually stunning exploration of the science of snow offering basic information about the formation and structure of snow crystals. Snowflake-catching instructions are also included.

Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, How do snow crystals form? Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if that snow crystal in the magnifying glass is a real one?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Introduce the concepts of comparison, perspective and persuasion to help the children relate to their meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *The Story of Snow: The Science of Winter's Wonder*

- vapor: water in the form of gas
- crystal: something that has the form of a crystal like a snowflake
- bacteria: a tiny microorganism responsible for diseases
- microscope: a device used to produce a larger image of an object
- hexagon-shaped: a shape that has six sides
- column: something shaped like a long cylinder or tube
- wither: shrivel or dry up

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- How big is a speck?
- How many sides does a snow crystal usually have?
- What is the most common shape of a snow crystal?
- Which is prettier –a star crystal, a plate crystal or a column crystal?
- Which numbers on a clock do the star crystal's arms point to?
- What is the magic number for snow crystals?
- What are the little bumps on a snow crystal called?
- How many snow crystals does it take to make a snowflake?

Do

Catch Snow Crystals

Follow the instructions for catching your own snow crystals on page 32. Be sure to read the Snow-Catching Tips first! No snow? Make your own snow crystals by crushing ice

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