

LET IT SNOW, Let It Snow, let it snow!!

Getting the surprise value from snow...

1) Say "It's going to snow today at 11:25 AM" on a warm sunny day. A few minutes before, read a story like Snowy Day to young students. Gather all the students around and close enough to see. Then bring out the snow tube with a bottle of water and a basin. Have a student place a cupped hand over the basin. Place a small amount of artificial snow in the student's hand and slowly add a small amount of water. The snow crystals quickly grow into a mound of snow. It feels cold when squeezed. Students will be amazed and everyone will want to "try their hand" and a few magic words.

The crystals will absorb 100 times their weight in water. The surface of the snow feels cold because evaporation is taking place. It will remain cold to touch for several days at room temperature as evaporation is a cooling process.

Use a thermometer to measure the temperature of the room, the crystals, the water, hand temperature, and the snow. What will be the temperature of the snow after it stays at room temperature for several days?

Add water that has a small amount of different food coloring. Ask students to predict and then see what happens when the different colors of snow meet.

Store some of the snow in a plastic sealable bag and place it in the freezer overnight. The next day you can make snowballs out of that snow.