

WINTER

ART



A huge 'Thank you' to all the teachers who
have shared their wonderful ideas over the
years!



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Snowflakes

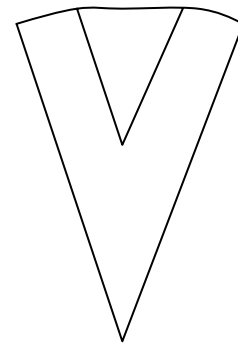
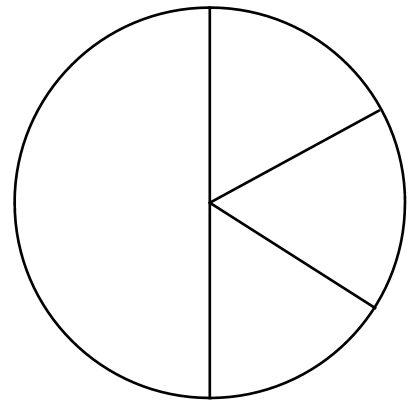
Make 6 Point Snowflakes

Snowflakes are all different and all of the usual snowflakes have six points. When you have children cut snowflakes, fold the paper so they get the six point flakes.

Enlarge the pattern here to fit a regular piece of 8 1/2 x 11 paper - or draw your own to match. The children cut out the circle, and then fold one third in on a line to the next line and then the last piece over. Then your paper is cone-shaped - so hold it like a cone. The point is the centre of the snowflake and the top of the cone is the outside. The children cut pieces out of all three sides.

To make six definite points, cut a V out of the top of the cone as illustrated. Then make cuts along the side of the V, too.

For young children who do not cut or fold paper well, make rectangular snowflakes.



Q-Tip Snowflakes

Cross three Q-tips in the shape of a snowflake on wax paper. Put a very large blob of glue in the centre (where all the q-tips meet). Let dry for at least 1 day. Remove from the wax paper. Tie yarn at the top to hang in your windows.

This can also be done with toothpicks. Cross three on wax paper and put the blob of glue in the center. Do several, and then when dry, peel them off and hang them on a thread over the windows.

A Different Q-Tip snowflake

Put a quarter size dab of glue on wax paper and then give each child 6 Q-tips. They lay one end of each Q-tip in the glue to make a 6-pointed star shape. Drip some glue over the center so the Q-tip ends are well glued. Let dry for a day. Then peel off the wax paper and hang on the window or hang from the ceiling.

Popsicle Stick Snowflakes

Glue three popsicle sticks together, crossed to form a snowflake. When dry, paint white. While the paint is still wet, sprinkle glitter on top. You can also glue on wagon wheel or other macaroni before painting. Tie yarn at top to hang.



Catch Snowflakes

You will need black velvet or black construction paper, a magnifying glass, and snow, of course!

Since snowflakes melt so quickly you need to freeze your cloth or paper. Have it ready frozen and ready to go for the next snowfall, then go outside and let some snowflakes land on the dark surface. Quickly, before they melt, examine the flakes with a magnifying glass. Many snowflakes are 'broken' so you don't see the whole six-sided crystal, but with persistence you'll see some beautiful examples.



Spatter Paint

Cut out several snowflakes and choose the prettiest one. Lay it on dark blue construction paper, and spatter paint over it. We now have a 'negative' snowflake.

Fabric Paint Snowflakes

Take a snowflake pattern and insert it into a closed Ziploc bag. Then use fabric paint to trace the pattern on the outside of the bag. When it dries (a day or two later) you should be able to pull it off and stick it to the window. These window clings work great and look super on the windows.

Toothpick Snowflakes

"I had my class make snowflakes using toothpicks and marshmallows. We used three or four small marshmallows per 'arm' (six arms) and a large marshmallow for the hub in the center. We talked about how snowflakes are formed, how they have six sides, each side identical to the others, how no two snowflakes look alike, etc. The students had to come up with a pattern that included the large marshmallow in the middle (ie. small pink marshmallow, small yellow, small pink, large yellow, small pink, small yellow, small pink). Most of them wanted to make a second one to take home that day. The only difficulty was keeping the arms from drooping."

When all six are completed, they choose a colour of large marshmallow to attach the 'arms'. The colour must make the pattern correct. Since snowflakes are flat, the attaching is relatively simple. You can use the clock, with hands at 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12."

A Snowflake hanging

"After learning how to make snowflakes, I give each student six white paper circles and turn them loose. When they have six completed, they get a piece of white construction paper on which I have drawn a spiral and they cut on the spiral line. Together we tape the snowflakes to a length of white thread (this part is a challenge) and tape the threads around the edge of the spiral. I hang the spirals by their centers from the ceiling. They look great! I leave them up long after we do our snow activities as we have winter here for a long-g-g-g-g time."

Snowflake Prints

Cut a green pepper in half crosswise. Let the children dip the pepper into white paint and press down onto dark blue coloured construction paper. Add glitter or embossing glitter for texture before the paint dries.

Make Rainbow Snowflakes

Give each child a flat coffee filter. These are coloured in rainbow colours with washable felt pens in the rainbow sequence - red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, and back to red to make the circle. Then spray the filters with water until the colours blend slightly.

Or.....the children dip the coffee filter in a bucket of water and ring out the water. Then, using droppers, they drop liquid water colours onto the wet coffee filter. The colours will bleed together. (you could use food colouring if you don't have liquid water colours).

When these are dry, fold to make a 6 point snowflake and cut them. Mount on a bulletin board with one of these poems:

We were tired of winter days,
Being cold and wet and gray.
So we talked to winter's wizard.
He made it snow a rainbow blizzard.



If snow came down in colours
How splendid it would be,
To make bright jolly snowmen
For everyone to see.

"I mount the coffee filter onto a 12 x 18 inch piece of dark blue construction paper, with a story each child wrote about what would happen if there was coloured snow. It is a very striking effect. "

Make your own snowflake on-line!

<http://snowflakes.lookandfeel.com/>

Snowflake Panels

"I teach my class to cut the six-point snowflakes from a circle. Then I have them cut several small flakes about 4 inches in diameter. I give each child two pieces of wax paper 18 inches long and they place the snowflakes on one sheet and sprinkle a few of the small bits that have been cut out all over. Then the other piece of wax paper is put on top and I iron them using a soft cloth over and under the sheets. When they cool, the children put a strip of white paper at the top and bottom - both sides - for a border and I hang them from the ceiling."



A Window Decoration

Make six pointed snowflakes by folding a paper circle (or coffee filter) in half and then in thirds so it is a cone shape. Cut pieces from the sides and the top of the cone. Tape the finished snowflake to the window. Dip small pieces of sponge in white paint and dab over the holes in the snowflake. Remove the paper snowflake and see the beautiful results! Add a squirt of dish detergent in the white poster paint so it will wash off easily later.

Snowmen

Paint a simple snowman with white paint on dark blue construction paper. While the paint is still wet, sprinkle fake snow on the snowman. Add a construction paper hat, nose, arms, and eyes.

Glue doilies on paper to form a snowman body. Add details with markers and construction paper.

Make snowmen using marshmallows (large and mini-) and toothpicks. You can also build castles, forts or houses if the children's attention permits!

Give each of your children three paper plates. Have them make a snowman smile and eyes with black pom-pom's. Then use the orange craft foam to make a carrot nose. Finally, glue the other plates to the bottom and add pom-pom buttons and small stick arms.

For a smaller snowman use cupcake liners, or small plates.

Draw an outline of a snowman on a piece of construction paper. Fill in the snowman with cotton balls. Add details (eyes, nose, etc.) with scraps of construction paper.

"You can make snowmen by mixing white glue and shaving cream 1/2 and 1/2 and paint with it. When it dries it remains 3D (until someone pokes their finger into it!)."

"Sponge paint a snowman shape on blue construction paper. Poke two holes to thread yarn through at either side of the 'neck'. Cut mittens from folded construction paper and glue to the ends of the yarn. Use construction paper scraps or found objects (buttons, cloth, beans, beads, popcorn) to create a face, hat, buttons for snowman, etc. You can cut cloth and add pompoms for a hat, glue a triangle out for a nose, pipecleaner arms, button eyes, black bean mouth, popcorn buttons. Use your imagination!"



"Would you like spotless desktops? Give each child several squirts of shaving cream and pretend it is snow. They can pile it up and make snowmen and all sorts of creations. It is great fun!"

"Paint a tongue depressor white. When dry - paint the top 1" black (on both sides). Take a small strip of black felt and make a brim for the hat. Glue around the tongue depressor where black and white line up. Glue on wiggly eyes. Paint tip of toothpick orange and break off making it about 1/2" long - glue in place for nose (looks like a carrot nose). Make 5 dots below nose with a black marker for the smile. Take a length of ribbon and tie on for the scarf. Make 4 larger dots down underneath the scarf for buttons. Take a length of ribbon and glue to the back of the hat to form a loop for hanging."



"We made the snowmen out of tube socks this year and they were adorable. Put a canning jar lid in the bottom of the tube sock. Put in a small plastic bag of rice. You could omit the bags but it was easier for the children to handle with a bag. This has created your weighted base. Stuff with batting about 2/3 way to create the body and tie with a piece of yarn or scrap of cloth for the scarf. Stuff again and tie off the head. Turn down the sock and make a cuff to create the hat. Hot glue 3 buttons in a row on the body. Decorate the face with markers by drawing on dots for a mouth, nose and eyes."

Make a snowman with whipped soap. Empty two to three cups of Ivory Soap in a large bowl. Gradually add just enough boiling water to soap to make it thick and creamy. Make a picture using the whipped soap.

Draw a snowman shape, and then 'paint' liquid glue in areas (not the whole thing at once) and put coconut, cotton balls, rice or? into the glue.

"I like to make torn paper snowmen. This year I had the kids draw three circles on white construction paper and then tear them. I wasn't sure if the grade 1's could handle this (I've had grade 2's and 3's nearly in tears trying to do this activity so I was a little leary - but of course, went ahead and did it anyway!). I showed them how to tear just a little bit at a time (and demonstrated what would happen - in an exaggerated manner, of course - if they tried to tear too much at once.) They did great! For the snowman's features I put out a variety of margarine tubs that have fun foam shapes, shiny papers, wall paper bits, etc. for the kids to decorate with. With older kids I don't let them use any scissors but I told my 1's they could use scissors for everything else - some did and some didn't but the results were fabulous!"

"We make snowmen out of baker's clay (flour , salt, and water), and display them along with evergreen trees that we cut from green paper, dab with "snow" (white paint) and mount on a toilet paper roll tubes. Very cute."

Soap Snowmen

4 parts soap flakes (not laundry detergent)

1 part water

hand mixer

large bowl

toothpicks

small twigs

embellishments such as cloves, candy corns, raisins, material scraps.

Whip water and soap until the mixture is the consistency of dough. Give each student a small amount. Have them shape into 3 balls and stack them using the toothpicks to hold them together. Then use the embellishments to decorate the soap snowman. The soap will turn white as it dries.

- Make a class snowman using ice that has been frozen in balloons and put together with salt and decorate. Add scarf, nose, eyes (felt sticks well). See how many days it takes to melt.

-Make a snowman from white doilies.

Here's oodles of snowman poetry! <http://www.earlyliterature.ecsd.net/snowman.htm>

Snowfriend

Pack a snowball.

Make it round.

Roll it, roll it, along the ground.

Make one big ball, and one of middle size;

Then roll a smaller ball. Add a nose and eyes.

Give him a broom and a scarf of blue.

Now there's a friend to play with you!



A Snowman in a Bottle

Fill an empty, clear water bottle with crumpled white crepe paper or tissue paper. Replace the top. Cut or gouge out a hole in a styrofoam ball so that the top of the bottle will fit snugly inside. Add a little hot glue, then stick the ball onto the bottle. Cut a hat, mouth, and buttons from black felt. Cut a carrot nose from orange felt. Glue these on as well as two "wiggly" eyes onto the styrofoam ball. Cut out a scarf from red or blue felt. Tie around the neck of the bottle and fringe the ends. If desired, add arms made of brown pipecleaners or real twigs. The pipecleaners can either be glued on, or a tiny hole can be punched in each side and the pipecleaners and /or twigs inserted.

A Snowman Glyph

Here are the directions for your kids to follow for this wintery glyph!

2 snowballs for boys, 3 for girls

Cut out your colour of eyes for your snowman

Carrot nose if you like reading best, celery nose if you like math best

Black top hat if winter is your favourite season, winter cap if another season is your favourite

1 button if you come to school in a car, 2 buttons if you walk, 3 buttons if you come by bus.

Scarf to the left if you are left handed, to the right if you are right handed.

Another Snowman Glyph

Draw a three-ball snowman, or cut out three white circles and glue them to blue construction paper.

1. The hat: If you are a boy, make the hat red. If you are a girl, make the hat green.
 2. Buttons: If you like mittens best, give the snowman two buttons. If you like to wear gloves, give the snowman three buttons.
 3. Broom or shovel: If you like snow, give the snowman a broom. If you don't like snow, give the snowman a shovel.
 4. Arms (black sticks): Your favourite season.... Arms by his sides = winter, both arms straight out = spring, both arms up = summer, one arm up and one arm down = fall.
 5. The shape of the eyes tells your favourite winter activity: circles = sledding, triangles = skating, squares = skiing, rectangles = building a snowman
 6. The carrot nose; point to the left if you have a coat and pants, point to the right if you have a one-piece snowsuit.
 7. Mouth: make four black dots if you wear a scarf, 5 black dots if you do not wear a scarf.
- Scarf: Colour the snowman's scarf your favourite colour.



Note: This picture and the one on the following page are from Barb Mathieson in North Vancouver.

<http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Sites/ReportsViewOnePopM.asp?RID=9654>

Go to her site for lots of great ideas for every month and season! Thanks, Barb!



These are fun!

Have the children colour a picture of a scarf, 2 mittens, and a hat. Then cut out. Pour a puddle of white liquid glue on a piece of aluminum foil. Lay the clothing pieces in the puddle and let dry. This is a melted snowman! This is a good activity on a warmer day when the snow is melting.

Make a snowman hooked together with brads so he can move his arms and head.



Winter Pictures

In art projects you can use many different items as snow (egg shells, flour, sugar, laundry soap, white sand, mashed potatoes, cotton, shaving crème, cool-whip, etc.).

For neat icicles, put a thick line of glue across black paper. Let the glue run down and then sprinkle glitter on it.

Sparkle Snow Paint

1/2 cup flour

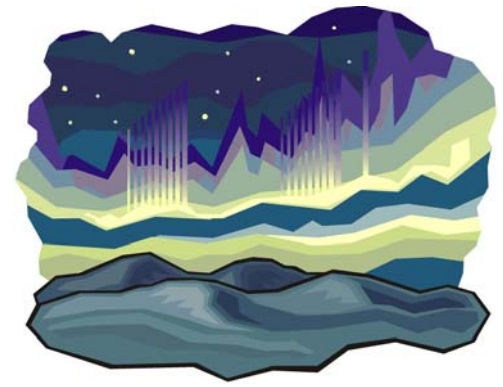
1/2 cup salt

1/2 cup water

"Mix together and put in a squeeze bottle. Squeeze doughy paint out onto black construction paper. Make anything snowy, snowflakes, snowmen. Let it dry thoroughly and it will sparkle. It may also be painted when dry. It gives a great 3 dimensional effect."

Northern Lights

Take a 12 x 18 piece of construction paper and jaggedly tear it the 'hot dog' way. Then lay this piece down on a black 12 x 18 piece of construction paper, but lay it down so that the jagged edges are about an inch down from the top of the paper. Take a coloured chalk and rub across the jagged paper and also across the black paper. Then move it down another 1/2 to 1 inch and take a different colored piece of chalk and rub again across the jagged piece and the black paper. Don't worry about going over the previous rubbing. Do this several times and then remove the jagged piece of paper. It will result in a bare black area where the jagged paper was and layers of color above that look amazingly like the Northern Lights.



Y Trees

"I made these trees again this year. First an horizon line is drawn and then the tree is drawn starting with a Y. Smaller letter Ys are used to put the other branches on the trees. I read Robert Frost's Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening first and then we make the trees. It was suggested they use light blue or gray background and then put a black frame around it. They are beautiful!"

(The biggest Y makes the trunk and the two main branches. Make smaller Ys that put the 'foot ' on the branch, sometimes upside down, too. Then smaller Ys can go off them.)

Sparkles Galore!

"I like to sprinkle salt on a wet painting, especially if it is a water-colour painting. The salt dries to look like crystals or snow falling."

"I've used Epsom salt and it really is a wonderful project. My paper did curl but since I hung them on a bulletin board I didn't mind. Important tip: Remind kids to wash hands when they finish. The salt will sting their eyes and nose. If you have a kid with a cut on his hand, have him wear a glove. I learned the hard way on that one. There's always those tactile kids that HAVE to get it all over their hands."

"To illustrate their work, each student created a winter scene using watercolours. After the pictures dried, the students went back and painted over their pictures using a heavy solution of Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) and water. (I had to show them how to get their work wet, yet not smear their paint by rubbing back and forth a million times.) When the pictures dried again, the salts made 'snow' crystals all over the paper. They look beautiful!"

"Here's the project I do every January:

Materials: Dark blue or black construction paper, paint brush, Epsom salts crystals, HOT water, one quart glass jar with lid, crayons, newspaper

1. Pour some Epsom salts on the newspaper to study. Explain that you will be mixing them with hot water, and will be watching for any changes that might occur in the structure of the crystal.
2. Fill the glass jar with hot, hot water.
3. Pour Epsom salt crystals into the water. Stir until dissolved. Continue adding the salts until they will no longer dissolve. The hotter the water, the more salts you will be able to add.
4. Discuss the changes that occurred in the crystals, then set aside.
5. Draw an outdoor snow scene on the dark construction paper, then colour it in very solidly with crayons.
6. Set the picture on the newspaper.
7. Paint the Epsom salt solution over the entire drawing. Make sure every corner of the page is covered. While you are painting, notice again the crystals have turned to liquid.
8. Set the picture aside to dry flat. Slowly, the salt mixture will begin to whiten, looking like falling snow. In fact, each day the 'snow' will become whiter and whiter. This is an opportune time to notice that as the water evaporates, crystals form again.
9. Look at the crystals through a magnifying glass. Count the sides of the crystals.

I also like to put some dry crystals on a strip of dark paper for the kids to look at under the microscope. We look at strips of the 'crystal paper' under the microscope too."

Draw an outdoor scene with a black crayon on blue paper. Add white chalk for snow.

For a Frosty Winter scene, colour a scene with crayons, press hard, then paint with white paint. The paint won't stick to the crayons. Sprinkle with clear glitter while the paint is still wet.

We make winter trees using gray paper for the background, trees drawn with black crayon using the letter y in different sizes for the branches, and painting white snow on them just as it looks after a snow storm.

Create a winter landscape from cut paper. Glue white paper onto a sheet of blue paper to make a snowy background, add cut paper pieces for trees, hills, houses. Use crayons or markers to finish the picture. Dip a paintbrush into the saltwater mixture. Dip the brush over the picture to give it a frosty look. Let the salt water dry.



"Use 12 x 18 gray paper (or dark blue) Trim 1/2 inch from all sides. Have children make a small hill for the tree...about 3 finger spaces up from bottom. Make a big tree (using the 'Y' method) on the hill

Demonstrate how snow falls on the top part of the branches, and usually on one side of the tree, never under the branches. Apply thick white paint for snow, using Q-tips or gently dotting with small paint brushes. Be sure to start at the top of the tree. Add snow falling if desired.

"When dry, staple or glue to 12 x 18 black paper for a striking frame. Display in hall, and it looks like a forest of winter trees. All look professional!"

'Fog' Pictures

"Living on the Coast we see plenty of fog in the winter! We draw pictures of the school (or other outdoor pictures), and then cover them with wax paper - and it really does look like fog!"

Winter Bulletin Boards

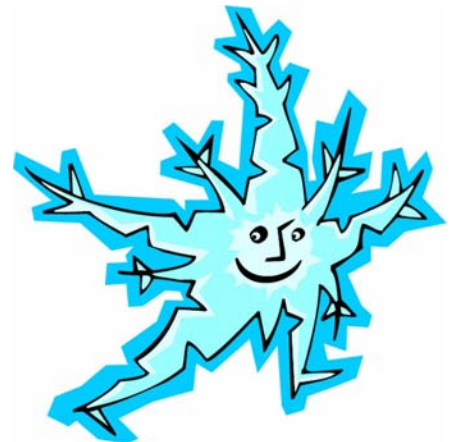
"Have the kids cut out snowflakes, put their pictures in the middle with the title, 'Like snowflakes, no two of us are alike.'"

"The snowflakes were put on the top two-thirds of the door or bulletin board. There were snowmen on the bottom and the teacher wrote 'Snowmen come unassembled'."

"One year I did a 'Winter Fun' bulletin board. I made a huge winter scene with trees and hills and a pond. I took digital photos of my kids in their winter outdoor clothes posing as if they were sledding, skating, skiing, etc. When printed I cut the children out and had them make skates or skis or snowman parts, etc., to glue to their picture so it looked like they were doing that activity. I glued these to the bulletin board scene. The kids then wrote a few sentences about their winter activities which I hung around the border of the scene."

Take digital photos of your kids making snow angels. Print them and put them on a bulletin board titled, "My Angels"!

"I put up a big snowman with the caption 'Snowbody does it better than us!' Then each child coloured a boy or girl with their name on it. I will display their papers next to their boy/girl.



"We are going to read the book *Snowballs* by Lois Ehlert. Each student will get three small white paper plates to take home and decorate with their families (or you can have them do it in class.) These three paper plates make a snowman. We'll put these out in the hallway. I put blue background paper on the bulletin board and then we put white paper on to look like snow. We'll put the snowmen on and then add snowflakes. These are really easy and look great. Take three popsicle sticks and glue them together (an x and then one straight down.) Paint with diluted glue and then lay them glue side down onto a plate of silver glitter. They are very pretty. I have a huge bulletin board so as we write some poems, we'll put those up as well."



"Also, on my door I put 'Snow joke - we're a great class!' and each kid coloured a snowman to put around the caption."

"We're making a cute snow scene for our hall display case. We are making snowmen out of baker's clay, and painting them white. We're also making evergreen snow trees by cutting out two green trees of construction paper, and sandwiching a toilet paper tube between for a stand. Then we add white paint for snow. Put down white batting or white paper for the ground and place snowmen and trees on ground for a cute winter scene. 'Let it snow!'"

"I had each student cut one snowflake from a coffee filter. I scattered these snowflakes across the top of a bulletin board that had blue paper on the top and a piece of white at the bottom cut wavy at the top of the white paper to look like snow. In the middle of their coffee filter snowflakes that are placed in the sky area, I placed their picture. I took their pictures with my own camera before Christmas and had them developed. Then I cut the picture out in a circle shape and taped them into the middle of the coffee filter snowflakes. We cut pine trees out of green construction paper of various sizes and took a Q-tip and dipped it into white paint and dabbed the Q-Ttip over the green trees to look like snow. These trees were placed on both sides of the bulletin board and a big snowman made out of white butcher paper is standing in the middle. His hat, face, buttons and scarf are coloured brightly with crayons. He goes from the bottom the board to the sky area. I wrote with a magic marker:

Just Like a Snowflake

No 2 Are Alike

This is written broken apart like this - with the snowman in the middle. I must say it looks great! You can't believe the compliments I've received, even from parents in other rooms."

Other Ideas

Make your own snowflake on-line!

<http://snowflakes.lookandfeel.com/>

Mittens

Print out the *Mitten Song* on a chart. (Thumbs in the thumb-place.... etc.) Have the students trace around their two hands circling the finger tips to make mitten shapes. Have them work in partners and help one another make these tracings. Now the mittens must have patterns and be coloured symmetrically. Cut them out and put them around the poem.

Read *The Mitten* by Jan Brett. Go to her website.... www.janbrett.com and you will find lots of neat activities to go with the book. This site

http://www.janbrett.com/put_the_animals_in_the_mitten.htm has pictures of the animals for re-telling the story.

