

BRRRinging in Winter: It's sNOW Problem! By Denise Grigas

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 on to black construction paper. Make anything snowy, snowflakes, snowmen, - we made snow covered mountains with the moon and northern lights. Let dry thoroughly and it will sparkle. May also be painted (when dry) and allowed to dry again. This is a great 3 dimensional effect for snow.

Melting Snowfriends

(similar to Hangman)

Select a spelling word, as in hangman. Indicate the number of letters by sketching blanks on the board. Beside the blanks, draw a snowman (or woman) complete with features and accessories. (You want at least ten distinct parts in the snowperson--body, eyes, nose, mouth, buttons, hat, scarf, etc.) Let students take turns guessing letters. When students guess a letter not used in the word, erase one part of the snowperson. Continue to play until a student guesses the word or the snowperson has been completely erased.

For variation, create a list of sentences using students' vocabulary words. Write one sentence on the board, leaving a blank where the vocabulary word should go. Sketch a snowperson above the sentence. Let students guess which word best completes the sentence. If an incorrect word is guessed, erase one part of the snowperson. See how many sentences students can complete before the snowperson melts away.

Snowman Fashion Show

Copy a snowman for each student in the class, and laminate page. Give students either water-based markers or dry erase markers. Ask students to add the snowman's apparel as you describe it. (He is wearing a red scarf. He has a brown cap. His middle section is green. It has four yellow buttons. etc.) After you finish describing the snowman, ask students to hold up their pictures. Give a sticker or other small reward to each student who listened carefully and created the snowman's apparel as described. Wipe pages clean with a damp paper towel, and repeat activity.

To use in a learning center, make only two copies of the snowman. Laminate both snowman and attach each snowman to a folder. Place snowmen folders, one pack of water-based markers, and wet-wipes inside a larger folder or box. Two students at a time may use the fashion show. One student should decorate his or her snowman, without allowing the other student to see it. After the snowman is decorated, the student should describe the decorations. The other student attempts to decorate his or her snowman to match. After all directions have been given, students may compare snowmen. They may then wipe pages clean with wet wipes, reverse roles, and play again.

Story Snowball Fight

Crumple sheets of notebook paper for an indoor snowball fight. Divide students into groups of six to eight. Give one student in each group a snowball. That student begins to tell a story. After about 30 seconds, call "snowball fight!" The student should stop immediately and toss the snowball to another member of the group. That member must carry on the story until "snowball fight!" is called again. Vary time between calls from 15-60 seconds.

After the fight is over, ask each group to summarize its story for the rest of the class.

Snow Dough

Materials Needed: flour, salt, white powdered tempera paint, silver glitter, water, oil, cream of tartar

Preparation: Mix dough in advance, or plan to make with students

Time: 5 minutes or more

Directions: Mix together the following ingredients:

1 cup flour

1/2 cup salt

1/3 cup white powdered tempera paint

1/3 cup silver glitter

1 cup hot water

2 Tbsp. oil

1 Tbsp. cream of tartar

Use as you would use play-dough--Review shapes, letters, sounds, vocabulary, numbers, etc....Or just play with the stuff for fun!

A Guide: the Different Kinds of Snowflakes:

<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/class/class.htm>

Do the Snowman Stomp - online visual memory and mousing practice activity.

<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/winter/FollowMe/Game.shtml>

Make a Snowman Snowflake

<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/winter/snowflake/6Point/make-it.html>

Make 3-D Paper Snowflakes

<http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-3D-Paper-Snowflake>

Printable Activity to use with Jan Brett's The Mitten

http://www.janbrett.com/put_the_animals_in_the_mitten.htm

Snowflake Finger Puppets and Poem:

<http://www.bry-backmanor.org/actpag23.html>

Make a Snowman Necklace:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/Gluesnowman.shtml>

Make a Mitten Bookmark:

<http://crafts.kaboose.com/mitten-bookmark-clip.html>

Make a Paper Plate Snowman:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/christmas/snowmanpaperplate/>

Make Quilled Snowflakes:

http://www.freekidscrafts.com/quilled_snowflakes-e150.html

Snowman on a Stick Treat:

http://www.freekidscrafts.com/snowman_on_a_stick-e142.html