

Ice-tastic sculptures!

Use cold weather to create ice sculptures or shapes by freezing water into a range of different objects to create interesting shapes.



Learning aims

- Exploring the properties of water when frozen
- Creating interesting shapes and objects with ice
- Observing how ice changes over time.

Resources

- A range of different size containers/packaging
- Water
- A selection of natural materials
- Small world figures
- Food colouring (optional)
- Rubber gloves / balloons
- Freezing temperatures or a freezer
- Trays to hold the ice-sculptures once frozen.

Activity Outline

- Gather a range of containers of various shapes and sizes that can be used in the freezer
- Fill each shape with water (add food colouring for coloured ice)
- Put the containers in the freezer or leave outdoors overnight if it is cold enough to freeze

- Once frozen pop the shapes out of the containers (ease the ice out with warm water over the container)
- Put the ice on to a tray for children to explore
- Give children some building tools to chip away at the ice to create their own ice sculptures.

Additional ideas

- Add small world figures to the water to make an exciting creative play scene
- Add a selection of natural materials to freeze
- Freeze water inside rubber gloves and balloons to create interesting ice shapes
- For large scale ice sculptures place a range of big containers outdoors overnight
- Guttering used for water play is a great way to collect large frozen construction blocks.