

Comparative Science  
activity with worksheet  
and take-home snowflake

# Snowflake Crystals

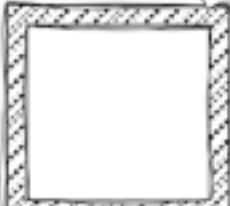

Duration:  
15-24 hours to  
grow crystals



My Science Notebook

## Snowflake Crystals

After 24 hours

	
Initial Pipe Cleaner Snowflake Diagram	Final Pipe Cleaner Snowflake Diagram
Observational Notes	Observational Notes

How is this similar to the way real snowflakes form?

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Do you want to make a

# Snowflake?

## Materials:

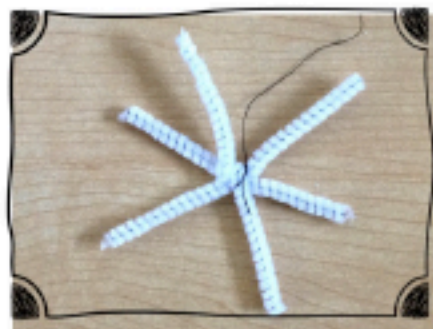
- o masking tape
- o string
- o popsicle stick
- o glass jar
- o 3 pipe cleaners

## Directions:

1. Write your name on masking tape and stick it on your jar.



2. Twist the pipe cleaners together in the center to make a 6 point snowflake.



3. Tie the string to the center of your snowflake and to the middle of your popsicle stick. Rest it in the jar. It should hang in the middle of your jar. If it is too long, wrap it around the stick several times.



4. Bring the jar with your snowflake to the resting spot. Have a teacher fill your jar with the water/Borax mixture. Do not touch your jar. Leave it overnight to let the crystals grow!



# Snowflake Crystals

## Materials:

- o string - to hang the snowflake in the jar
- o popsicle stick - 1 per student/group
- o wide-mouth glass jar (thick plastic cups also work) - 1 per student/group
- o 12" white pipe cleaners - cut into 3 equal pieces for each student
- o Borax (check laundry department)
- o An electric kettle for boiling water
- o coffee filters (optional) - for covering the jar to prevent dust
- o food colouring (optional) - add it to individual jars or the whole batch

## Tips:

- Make sure a finished snowflake can fit through the mouth of the jar you plan to use.
- Use 3 tablespoons of Borax per cup of boiling water. I mix a big bowl and pour it into the students' jars when they are finished.
- Have a tray or table ready to keep the jars filled with the snowflake mixture. Use a spot that won't be bumped or disturbed. I have my students bring their jar to this spot when they are ready for the water/Borax mixture. That way no boiling water is carried through the classroom.

# Snowflake Crystals

After 24 hours



Observational Notes



Observational Notes

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**How is this similar to the way real snowflakes form?**

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