

## 2.7 Winter Art Area



### Description

While winter materials, such as snow and icicles, can't be included in an art area, children enjoy creating representations of them. This art area encourages children to explore the colors and forms of winter. Collage materials are white or light blue, and black and dark blue paper provide contrast. Additional activities include a tray of materials for cutting snowflake designs and a basket of cotton balls for creating various shapes.

### Helpful Hints

White fiberfill can be used instead of cotton balls for modeling activities.

### Art Experiences

- ▲ drawing
- ▲ gluing
- ▲ cutting
- ▲ combining art media

### Materials

- ▲ 3 sets of pastel markers
- ▲ 4 pencils
- ▲ 3 glue containers, with spreaders
- ▲ collage tray, with white and light blue tissue paper, iridescent paper confetti, white foam circles, and aluminum foil
- ▲ basket of white cotton balls
- ▲ silver and white glitter, in shakers
- ▲ small squares of white paper, for folding and cutting
- ▲ 4 pairs of children's scissors



- ▲ black and dark blue construction paper
- ▲ white drawing paper

### Child's Level

This art area is appropriate for either preschool or kindergarten children.

### What to Look For

Children will talk about winter as they create with the white materials.

Children who have not had experience with glitter may put glue on top of it to try to hold it.

Children will display a range of drawing stages.

Children will be fascinated with the symmetry created as they fold paper and then cut out various shapes.

Children may pull the cotton into different shapes before gluing it.

### Modification

The most difficult material to control in this art area is the glitter. It can be added later or used as a special activity if it is hard to manage.

### Comments & Questions to Extend Thinking

What does the foil remind you of?

How does the cotton feel?

What materials would you select to represent snow?

Fold your paper, cut out a piece, and see how it looks.

Can you tell Maria how you made that snowflake shape?

How can you change the shape of the cotton ball?

### Integrated Curriculum Activities

Sing songs about snow (see *More Than Singing*, activities 2.6, 4.5, and 6.6).

Spray snow with water, colored with food coloring (activity 8.6).

Read books about snow, such as *The Snowy Day*, by Ezra Jack Keats (New York: Viking, 1962); and *In the Snow*, by Huy Voun Lee (New York: Holt, 1995).

Put snow, buckets, and scoops on the sensory table.

Use plastic snowflakes as counters for a math game (see *More Than Counting*, activity 4.16).

## 8.6 Snow Rainbow



### Description

For this activity, children spray the snow with colored water. It is exciting to watch the snow take on the colors of the water. Some children combine colors to create new colors, while others draw large pictures with the spray bottles. Children are usually eager to see if their colors and pictures last from day to day. A camera can capture the creations before they melt.

### Helpful Hints

Have a set of old gloves available, or ask parents to send old gloves or mittens, as the food coloring may stain the children's gloves.

Water can be quickly colored with a few drops of food coloring.

### Art Experiences

- ▲ spray bottle painting
- ▲ painting on an unusual surface

### Materials

- ▲ snowy outside area
- ▲ spray bottles, filled with colored water (red, blue, and yellow)
- ▲ camera

## **Child's Level**

This activity is appropriate for either preschool or kindergarten children.

## **What to Look For**

Children will watch eagerly as the snow turns colors.

Children will combine colors of water on the snow to produce new colors.

Some children will create pictures with the spray bottles on the snow.

Children will watch to see if their creations change from day to day.

## **Modification**

After they have had some initial experiences with spraying the snow different colors, children may wish to create sculptures with the snow and then spray them with colored water.

## **Comments & Questions to Extend Thinking**

How did you make purple snow without having purple water?

Can you use the spray bottle to make a picture?

Look. Someone made a red circle and colored it in with blue.

## **Integrated Curriculum Activities**

Color ice cubes by adding a drop of food coloring to the water before freezing (activity 3.13). Children can draw with them.

Put snow in the water table. Children can color it with tiny spray bottles of colored water and observe how the colors look as they melt.

Put colored ice cubes in the water table. Children can watch the colors change as they melt and mix together.