Make Snow Ice Cream

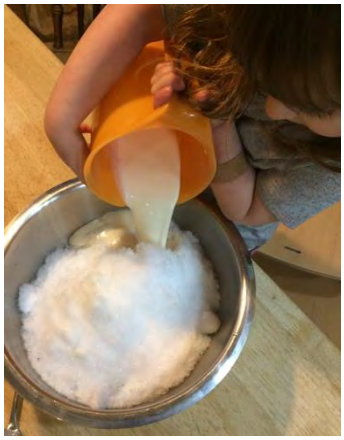
Celebrate snow falling from the sky with a tasty recipe!

Materials Needed:

Fresh snow, milk (or milk alternative: see recipe), sugar, vanilla extract, sprinkles, mixing bowls, spoons.

Instructions:

Use freshly fallen snow to create a simple dessert together!



Snow Ice Cream Recipe

This basic recipe is adaptable to different ingredients:

8 cups CLEAN and fresh snow (lightly packed)
1 cup of one of the following options:

- Milk: dairy or non-dairy (such as rice milk)
- half and half
- heavy cream
- sweetened condensed milk
- combination of any of the above

Sugar to taste (suggested: 1/3 cup. No sugar needed if using sweetened condensed milk).
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
Sprinkles

To make chocolate ice cream, add cocoa powder or hot chocolate mix to the milk. For fruit flavors, substitute 1 cup fruit smoothie for milk (stir carefully to avoid a liquid result).

Step 1: Go outside and collect clean, fresh snow in a mixing bowl.

Step 2: Mix sugar and milk (or milk alternative) together in a separate bowl.

Step 3: Pour milk mixture and vanilla extract over the snow. Mix until you reach ice cream consistency.

Step 4: Add sprinkles, serve, and enjoy your fresh snow dessert!

Snowfall

Snow forms in the Earth's atmosphere. The atmosphere protects the Earth from the energy of the Sun. Clouds form in the layers of atmosphere closest to the Earth's surface. Clouds are made of huge amounts of water droplets, which can produce snow.

When the temperature in the cloud drops below freezing, water droplets inside can bump into tiny pieces of dirt and freeze into ice crystals. As ice crystals move through the cloud, they absorb millions of water droplets, and form a snowflake. When it is heavy enough, the snowflake falls to the Earth. Snowflakes can come in many different shapes, determined by the temperature and moisture in the cloud, but they all have six sides (because of electrical bonds between water molecules).

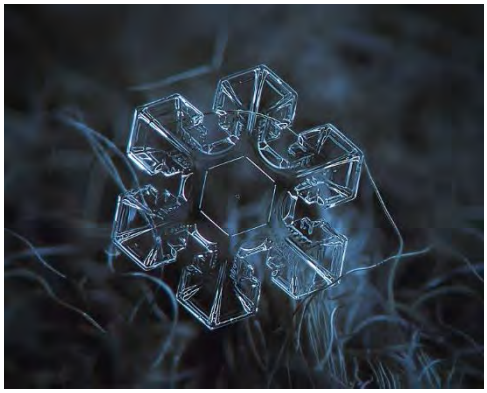


Image: Alexey Kljatov, via Wikimedia Commons.

Image: Egor Kamelev, via Pxhere.com.

Scientists study snowflakes to learn more about their shapes and how they form. They even use x-rays to map snowflake shapes!

Discover more about snow:

www.pbs.org/video/how-do-snowflakes-form-so97k9/

Throughout the winter, observe snow around you. What kind of shapes and textures do you notice? How does snow change with the temperature outside?

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