

Melting Snowman Experiment

Materials:

- Ice or Snow
- 2 glass bowls, cups, or jars
- Ruler



The Science Behind the Experiment:

- Water exists in all three states of matter: solid (ice), liquid (water), and gas (steam)
- Water freezes to become ice at 32 degrees Fahrenheit
- When water freezes, it expands, becoming less dense and taking up more space. Do ice cubes in your drink float or sink?
- Because ice takes up more space than water, when melted, will a full cup of ice be the same volume as a full cup of water?

Instructions:

1. Take your clear bowl or cup and place the ruler with the 1 inch side at the bottom and the 12 sticking out at the top.
2. Fill your cup with ice or snow, keeping your ruler in the center.
3. Measure the height of the snow/ice while frozen.
4. Predict what will happen if you leave the the cup out for an hour.
5. Measure the height of the water after your ice has melted.
6. Take notes of what happened. Was your prediction (also referred to as your hypothesis) correct? If it wasn't, that's ok because scientists often get things wrong, but they always learn something!