

# Winter

*I pat it with my hands  
Which are clean, of course  
And choose a cookie cutter;  
A snowflake, star or horse.*

*I cut out lots of shapes  
And a scrap of dough I eat.  
I sprinkle my cookies with sugar  
And lift to the cookie sheet.*

*After I make some more,  
They go in the oven to bake.  
I think that sugar cookies  
Are a special treat to make.*

## Related books

*Over and Over* by Charlotte Zolotow  
*Snow* by Roy McKee and P. D. Eastman

■ Mary Brehm, Aurora, OH

3+

## Hibernating Bear

### Science skills

Downloaded by test@gryphonhouse.com from  
This activity encourages children to ask questions about nature.  
ProFilePlanner.com

### Materials

Bear puppet

Bag or box

### What to do

1. Introduce your bear puppet after reading a story about bears (see suggestions below) at group time. Pull him out of a bag or box and surprise the children.
2. Have the bear tell the children that their song woke him up. Make him sound drowsy and maybe a bit grumpy.
3. He can explain how bears hibernate in the winter. He might mention other animals that hibernate in winter and ask the children questions about winter in general. What do they like to do in the snow? Do they hibernate, too?

### More to do

**Art:** Look through magazines for pictures of bears and make a class collage.

### Related books

*Not This Bear* by Bernice Myers  
*Sleepy Bear* by Lydia Dabovich

■ Laura Durbrow, Lake Oswego, OR

# Winter

## Ice Castle

3+

### Science skills

*In this activity, children observe how ice takes the shape of the container it was frozen in and how it reacts to salt.*

### Materials

Plastic containers, one per child  
Freezer  
Gloves and mittens  
Chart paper and marker

Water  
Water table  
Salt shaker with salt

### What to do

1. Have children fill small containers of different sizes with water and place in a freezer overnight.
2. Remove ice from containers and place in the water table.
3. Point out how the ice took the shape of the containers.
4. Encourage children to build a castle with the ice. They will need gloves or mittens, and they will need to cooperate with each other as each tries to stack his shape. Do the ice cubes stack the same way blocks do?
5. Sprinkle the ice with a salt shaker. The salt helps the ice pieces stick together. Ask the children if they know how this happens. Record their responses.
6. Ask the children if they can think of other ways to keep the pieces of ice together. Try a few.

### More to do

**Art:** Freeze colored water in a cup with a stick. Children ice paint on porous paper.

### Related books

*The Penguin That Hated the Cold* by Barbara Brenner  
*The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats

■ Teresa J. Nos, Baltimore, MD

## Ice Cube Race

3+

### Science skills

*Children use observation and prediction skills in this activity.*