

~ ASK MOTHER NATURE ~



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to:

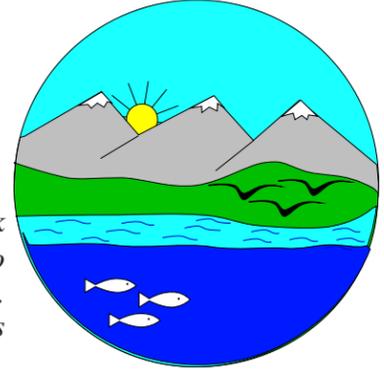
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Now that we have lots of snow in Grand County, let's talk about making the "Perfect Snowball". You've heard that no two snow flakes are the same. The same is true about snowballs. Different kinds of snow, form different kinds of snowballs. There's slush, light powder, and heavy snow.

Light powder is less heavy because it doesn't have much water in it. It is the driest kind made of mostly air. The lower the temperature, the drier the snow will be, making it hard to make snow balls. This kind of snow is beautiful and there are still ways to make that great snowball. Look for a place where the snow is slightly warmer, like near the house. You can also lie down on some snow for a few minutes (make a snow angel while you're at it). Your body heat will begin to melt the snow giving the moisture it needs for good snowballs.

We'll learn about making that perfect snowball below. Check with an adult to make sure that it is ok to throw your snowball at the person, animal or target. Have fun!

Naturally Yours, Mother Nature

How to Make a Perfect Snowball

1. Scoop up enough snow so that your cupped hands are full.
2. From this cupped position, slowly close your hands together.
3. Begin rotating them as if you were trying to trap an insect without killing it.
4. Apply increasing pressure as you rotate your hands into this position.
5. Careful not to pack with too much force.



A perfect snowball should leave its mark, but not hurt.

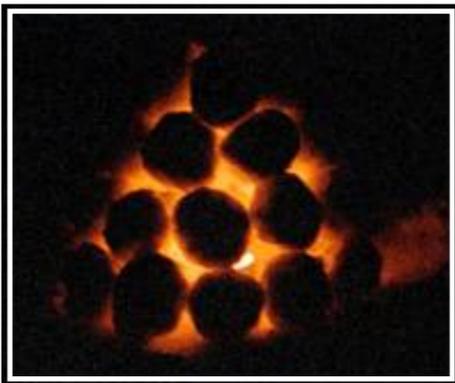
Make a Snow Lantern

Equipment Needed

- Warm clothes
- An extra pair of mittens/gloves
- A tea candle
- A box of matches

Make sure to dress warmly

Have an adult handle the matches

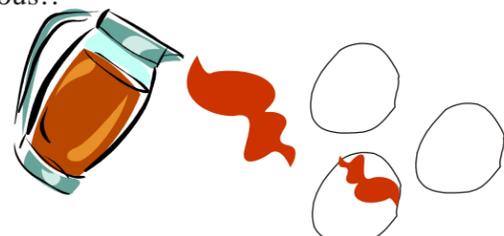


- If the snow is very deep, you might want to stomp around a bit to create a flat and even surface for your snow lantern. You then need to decide how big a lantern you want to build. The bigger the lantern, the more snowballs you will need.
- Place the snowballs close together in a circle on the ground. The bigger the circle, the bigger the lantern. Make sure that the snowballs are placed firmly onto the ground so that they don't roll away when you place more snowballs on top of them. In the example shown in the picture, 12 snowballs were used for the first layer.
- Build a second row of snowballs on top of the first row, making the second circle a little bit smaller than the first one. This is where the 'stickiness' of the snow comes in handy, because it will prevent the second circle from collapsing inwards while you are building it. If the snow isn't sticky enough, support the snowballs with one hand while adding more snowballs with the other hand.
- If you want to make a really high snow lantern, make the second circle as big as the first one, and the next one, and the next one. When you feel that the lantern is high enough you start making the circles smaller.
- If you have decided to make a very small snow lantern, you might want to leave a hole at the top of the snow lantern. If the flame from the candle inside the lantern is too close to the snowballs, the snowballs will start melting and drip water onto the candle, putting it out.
- Light the tea candle and push it in through the opening in the first row, placing the candle exactly in the middle of the snow lantern.

More Edible Snowballs

Thanks Sue!

Make snowballs with clean snow
Pour some maple syrup on your snowball
M-m-m delicious!!



Snowball Ice Cream

Ingredients

- 1 c. Half & Half
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Food coloring
- Dash of salt
- 5 c. of fresh, clean snow

Wash hands.

Combine everything in a bowl
Make snowballs with your hands
Enjoy your snow ice cream!



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