

Unit 3



Week 1

Outdoor Learning Opportunities:
Catching Snowflakes

Standards:
M.MD.PS.2
ALT.IC.PS.3
S.ES.PS.1



Materials:

- Pieces of black felt (approximately 3" x 4")
- Laminated cards (approximately 4" x 6") with pictures of different types of snowflakes (search for Bentley snowflake images online)
- Glue stick
- Hand lenses
- Camera
- Book – *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin & Mary Azarian

Vocabulary:

- Snowflake
- Crystals
- Miracle
- Wonder
- Photograph

Fold the laminated card, with the snowflake images on it, in half. Glue the black felt on one of the inside surfaces so the card is like a book that opens to images of snowflakes on one side and the black felt on the other. Place these cards in the freezer to get cold.

Give each child their card and a hand lens, then go outside when it is snowing. Open the cards and let the snowflakes collect on the felt. Use the hand lenses to look at the snowflakes up close. Take photos of the snowflakes or have the children do drawings of the snowflakes.

Compare the images of the snowflakes with the ones found in the book, *Snowflake Bentley*.

Extension: Prepare individual cards with one image of a snowflake (from the book) per card, then cut in half. Laminate the cards. Give each child a card with half of a snowflake image and ask them to find another child with the other half of the snowflake. These can also be used as a match game.

Guiding Questions:

- Describe the snowflakes that you see. How many sides do they have?
- Are any two snowflakes the same? What similarities do you see? What differences?

- How do snowflakes form?