



WEEK 9 Day 4

Discovery: Snow or Ice

Children explore snow. If snow is unavailable, crushed ice can be used.

Big Idea	Through shared or independent research, people gather, organize, and analyze information about the world to think critically and gain understanding.
Guiding Questions	What more do you want to learn about animals and their habitats? How and where can you find this information?
Vocabulary	protect: to keep safe from harm shelter: a place giving protection from bad weather or danger
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● snow, slush, crushed ice Place a good amount of the snow or ice in the Discovery Table. ● natural materials, such as pebbles or rocks, leaves, sticks and twigs (Those collected for the bird nests can be repurposed.) ● scoops, spoons, and/or cups ● non-fiction books including images of animals in winter, their habitats, and their shelters ● wolf/owl figurines, either store-bought or child-created ● gloves, plastic or rubber <p>Bring a small amount of snow/ice in a container along with some natural materials to the whole group meeting area.</p>
Intro to Centers	<p><i>We are learning about how wolves protect themselves in a cold environment. This week at the Discovery Table, you can investigate part of this environment: snow! What does snow feel like? What do you think will happen to this snow in the Discovery Table, in our warm classroom?</i></p> <p>Harvest a few responses.</p>

	<p><i>We also have some materials for constructing shelters, or homes, for animals that live in habitats where it snows. Shelters protect animals and help animals stay warm.</i></p> <p>Model using pebbles, branches, leaves to construct a shelter.</p> <p><i>Before you construct a shelter, you might want to reference some of these resources. They can provide ideas, information, and inspiration for building shelters.</i></p>
During Centers	<p>Children explore the properties of snow/ice using their hands, scoops, and other tools. Children sculpt and build with the snow/ice.</p> <p>They use natural materials to construct habitats for wolves and other animals. Challenge them to think about protection from cold and predators, and about care for young.</p> <p>Encourage children to notice what is happening as they work with the snow/ice in the warm classroom.</p> <p>Offer gloves for cold hands, if needed.</p>
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How do animals stay warm when it is cold outside? ● Why do wolves need a shelter when it snows? ● What materials do animals use to build their shelter in the snow? Why? ● What do you notice about the snow/ice? How is it changing? Why do you think so? ● How do you think an animal's environment change as the snow changes?
Standards	<p>K-LS1-1. Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive. Further explanation: Examples of patterns could include that animals need to take in food but plants do not, the different kinds of food needed by different types of animals, the requirement of plants to have light, and that all living things need water. Examples could include the pattern a bear makes when preparing to hibernate for winter, the seasonal patterns of trees losing and/or keeping their leaves. Analyzing and Interpreting Data, Organization for Matter and Energy Flow in Organisms, Patterns</p>

Notes