

Winterbourne Nursery & Infant school
Practical Science
19.06.2020

Melting Ice

Freeze several small ice cubes or shapes of the same size. Put them in separate containers and choose different places to leave them. If you can go outside, you could put one in the shade, one in the sunshine and also leave one inside. You could also try making ice cubes out of different liquids like milk, vinegar or cooking oil.

WHAT DO YOU NOTICE?
Things to talk about...

Where does the ice cube melt the most quickly? Why might that be? Can you find the place where the ice cube will take the longest time to melt? Or the shortest time to melt? What happens with frozen cubes made from different liquids?



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The Science

Water can be a solid, liquid or a gas. A liquid turns into a solid (freezes) when its temperature drops below its freezing point. For water this is at zero degrees Celsius. Ice melts when its temperature rises above its freezing point. Ice melts faster when salt is added as the salt makes the freezing point of the ice lower. Different liquids have different freezing points. Oil freezes at a lower temperature than water, so an 'ice cube' made of oil will melt faster than one made of water.

Did you know? Fresh ice feels sticky because it immediately freezes the moisture in your skin, making it feel sticky to touch.