

# Soap flake snow

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## Learning opportunities

- \* Using unfamiliar media and materials creatively
- \* Comparing imitation snow with real snow and identifying similarities and differences

## Links to the Early Learning Goals

- \* Expressive arts and design – Exploring and using media and materials, Being imaginative

*Also*

- \* Understanding the world – The world

## Equipment and resources

A quantity of soap flake snow suitable for a small group of children to use at a time (1 cup soap flakes and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup water per child); electric whisk; mixing bowl. (Put the soap flakes into the mixing bowl and add the water, then beat to a creamy consistency with the electric whisk.)

## Activity

Invite children to dip their hands into water and then play with the mixture. They might make snowmen, snowballs, etc. When it is left to dry it looks similar to meringue. When the dried 'snow' is put into warm water, it becomes soap again and this can be used to wash dolls' clothes.

If there is snow on the ground outside, encourage the children to bring some indoors and compare and contrast the snow flake snow with the real substance.

## Extension

Place the resulting snowmen, snowballs or structures on foil. Weigh them and compare the weights.

## Discussion

Talk with the children about their experiences of seeing and being out in real snow. Ask them whether they think that the soap flake snow is like real snow and encourage them to describe similarities and differences.

