

Task: Homemade Snow - Which Recipe is Best?

Have you ever tried to make your own snow? Explore which ingredients will create the most lifelike snow.



Tip: You can learn more about snow using Britannica School. Find information on how snow is formed in the Britannica School "Snow" resource pack.

Practical Activity

Try each of the recipes below to see which best withstands the "snow test":

RECIPE 1

Materials:

- Baking Soda
- Hair Conditioner (white)
- Measuring Cup
- Bowl
- Spatula/Spoon

Steps:

1. Place 3 cups of Baking soda into the bowl.
2. Place $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of hair conditioner into the bowl.
3. Using the spatula/spoon mix the ingredients well. You may need to use your hands to finish the mixing.

RECIPE 2

Materials:

- Baking Soda
- Shaving Cream
- Fork
- Water
- Bowl
- Measuring Cup

Steps:

1. Place 1 cup of baking soda into a bowl.
2. Add 1 cup of shaving cream.
3. Mix with the fork.
4. Add a few drops of water until the mixture looks and feels like snow.

RECIPE 3**Materials:**

- Shredded Paper Towel
- Blender
- Baking Soda
- Water
- Fork
- Measuring Cup

Steps:

1. Blend the shredded paper towel together in the blender
2. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of baking soda and a few drops of water.
3. Mix with the fork until the mixture looks and feels like snow.

Questions:

Use the following questions (the "snow test") to compare each snow recipe.

- Which recipe produced the coldest snow? You can use the touch test or a thermometer to get an accurate reading. (Tip: Make sure the temperature of water you use is the same in each recipe.)
- Which recipe produced snow that can be most easily rolled into a ball?
- Which recipe produced the mixture that most resembled the appearance and feel (texture) of real snow?
- After answering the questions above, can you determine which recipe produced the best artificial snow?