

DECEMBER STEM ACTIVITY

MELTING SNOW PERSONS



Materials Needed:

- 🌲 Baking soda
- 🌲 Water
- 🌲 Vinegar
- 🌲 Raisins
- 🌲 Squirt bottle, eye dropper, or baster
- 🌲 Mixing bowl
- 🌲 Baking sheet
- 🌲 Optional: food coloring

Instructions:

1. Pour some baking soda into the mixing bowl. Mix with hands while slowly adding water. You want a moldable consistency, not soupy.
2. Shape the baking soda mixture into snowballs. You choose the size and number.
3. Stack the balls into the shape of a snowperson. Use raisins to give the snowperson buttons and a face. Feel free to add food coloring or other decorations to give your snowman life!
4. Place the crafted snowperson on a baking sheet or plate to contain the mess.
5. Using the squirt bottle, apply vinegar to the snowperson, and watch them melt away!

What is happening?!

Chemistry is happening!

Baking soda is a base. Vinegar is an acid. When mixed together, their chemical bonds break apart and form new ones. The chemicals released join up to become water and carbon dioxide, which causes the bubbling.

The chemicals that are released to form the water, H₂O, are OH, and H:
OH-H-OH-H-OH...looks a lot like HO, HO, HO!