

What Makes an Ice Cube Melt Faster?



Introduction

Discover the fastest way to start an ice cube melting - like a scientist. Observe, count time, compare and contrast, get a little wet and have fun.

Grade Level: K-2

Materials: Handouts, many ice cubes, trays or bowls, several dice, salt shakers, towels

Time: 30 minutes

First choose a partner, pick up an ice cube and compare it to your partner's. *Are they the same? Are they different?*

Roll the dice to select one of these 6 methods:

- 1 • Hold the ice cube in your hands for 10 seconds
- 2 • Hold the ice cube in your shirt for 10 seconds
- 3 • Blow on the ice cube for 10 seconds
- 4 • Put 10 shakes of salt on the ice cube
- 5 • Float the ice cube in tap water for 10 seconds
- 6 • Watch the ice cube for 10 seconds, do nothing to it

When you are finished, compare your ice cube to a partner's ice cube. Record what you observed about both ice cubes on the handout.

Next pick up another ice cube and compare it to your partner's. *Are they the same? Are they different?*

Then roll the dice again.

Compare your ice cube to a partner's and record your observations.

Compare all of the methods with the whole class.

Which method works best?

How long does it take for your ice cube to melt completely?

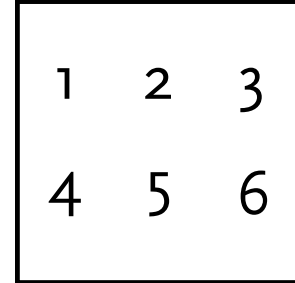
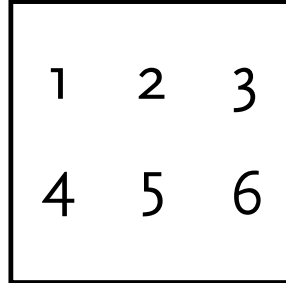


Experiment One

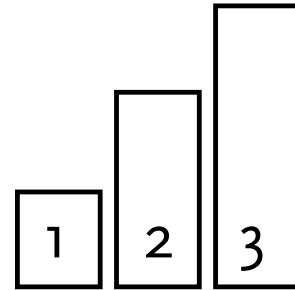
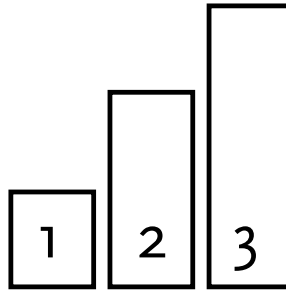
My Ice Cube

Partner's Ice Cube

Number on the Dice
circle one



How Much Did the Ice Cube Melt?
1 A Little
2 Some More
3 The Most
color in one bar

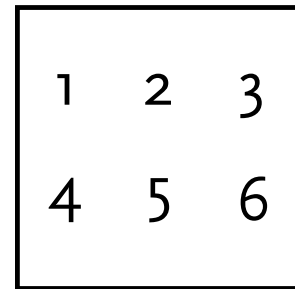
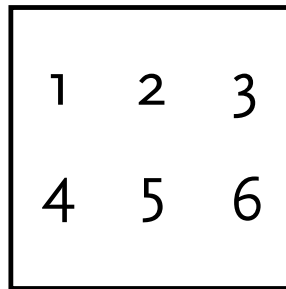


Experiment Two

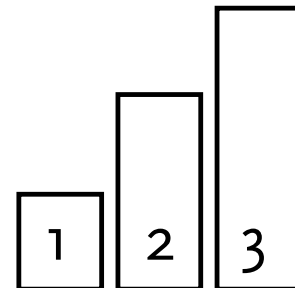
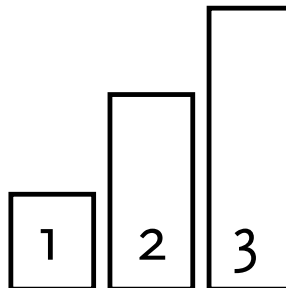
My Ice Cube

Partner's Ice Cube

Number on the Dice
circle one



How Much Did the Ice Cube Melt?
1 A Little
2 Some More
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color in one bar



Name _____

Date _____