

Melting Ice Science Experiment

MATERIALS

- Bowls or dishes (for making the ice)
- A large tray with sides
- Salt
- Liquid watercolors or food coloring
- Droppers or a spoon

INSTRUCTIONS

Step #1) Make the Ice

For fun, and for experiment's sake, fill many different sizes of bowls with water and let them freeze overnight.

Step #2) Set Up Your Melting Station

The next morning, loosen the ice from the bowls with a little warm water and set them in a big plastic finger paint tray or baking tray with a raised edge.

Step #3) Add Salt

Sprinkle table salt over the tops of the ice domes.

Rock salt, or another coarse salt, would be good to try as well.



Time to Add Color to The Melted Ice

Once you can tell that the salt is melting the ice, squeeze a little bit of a few different colors (yellow, pink, purple, turquoise) into jelly jars and add a dropper or spoon to each.

Now you can squeeze the watercolors onto the ice.



The real reason for adding the liquid watercolors is to highlight the ravines, crevasses, and tunnels that are forming in the ice as the salt melts it.

This experiment shows how the salt melts the ice, both before and during the science experiment. Salt makes ice melt differently, and it will melt ice at much cooler temperatures. So, wherever the salt touched the ice it would melt faster than the rest of the ice.

