

Snow Volcano

Snow volcanoes are a blast to create, combining the thrill of snow play with the excitement of watching them erupt in a safe and controlled way. This activity fosters hands-on learning about basic science concepts like pressure, reaction, and cause-and-effect, making it perfect for older children.

What you need:

- Snow (or a mound of snow)
- 1/4 cup of baking soda
- 1 tablespoon of dish soap
- 1/2 cup of vinegar
- Food colouring (optional)
- A container or small cup (to hold the ingredients)



What to do:

1. Prepare the eruption mixture before heading outdoors. In a small container/cup, mix $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of baking soda with 1 tablespoon of dish soap. Stir together well.
2. If you want a colourful eruption, add a few drops of food colouring to the baking soda mixture.
3. Head outside and build the snow volcano. Start by shaping the snow into a mound or volcano shape and make a small "crater" at the top leaving a space where you'll add the ingredients (or build the snow around the plastic container you've put the eruption mixture in.)
4. Once you have the eruption mixture in the middle of the snow volcano, slowly pour $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of vinegar into the volcano's crater and watch the eruption! The mixture will fizz and bubble, just like a real volcanic eruption!
5. You can try different amounts of vinegar or add more food colouring for a bigger, more colourful eruption.

Activity Extension:

- Create a snow volcano competition: Have a fun challenge where the children design their snow volcanoes to erupt in specific ways—whether it's for maximum height, longest duration, or the most colourful.
- Design a "volcanic" landscape: Let the children build a more detailed "volcanic landscape" around their volcano with additional snow, rocks, and other materials, and create a mini-model of a volcanic eruption scenario.

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