

Wilson (Snowflake) Bentley

make online snowflakes

<http://snowflakes.lookandfeel.com>

I. Ask the children about their favorite winter activities (5 min)

- ✓ alone
- ✓ with friends and family
- ✓ indoors and out
- ✓ Talk about feelings during this season.

II. OR, if children are learning about weather, ask what they know about snow

- ✓ What is snow
- ✓ What temperature is it outside when it snows
- ✓ Have you ever tried to look at a snowflake?
- ✓ What happens?

II Introduce the Artist (see page on “facts on artist”) (10 min)

Read Snowflake Bentley by Jacqueline Briggs Martin.

Abbreviate for younger kids as needed.

III. Introduce the Snowflake Thermometer Poster (2 min)

- ✓ Collage by Dorothy Wallace-Senft.
- ✓ Shows the type of snowflake formation relative to the temperature.
- ✓ Over 400 of Bentley’s snowflake images are cleverly used to illustrate the thermometer.
- ✓ Contains a picture of Bentley at his camera.

IV. Hand out pre-cut snowflakes which exemplify snowflakes at different temperatures. One to each child. (15 min)

- ✓ Hand out pre-cut snowflakes which exemplify snowflakes at different temperature. One to each child.
- ✓ Observe at which temperature the child believes their snowflake was formed
- ✓ Take turns approaching the poster (as needed)
- ✓ Have children work in groups to paste their snowflakes to a “thermometer” in descending order (related to temperature created)

V. Art Exploration (play “snow” CD as background music) (20 min)

Cut snowflakes out of white paper

Pre-cut assorted size circles.

Demonstrate how to fold paper into quarters or eighths

Demonstrate the result of cutting interior point versus exterior edges

Allow children to cut snowflakes

Glue snowflake to blue or black paper (11X17)

Decorate with sparkley blue, silver and white paint

Be sure to staple the art label on the project and have the child sign their name

VI. Time Permitting / Activity: Write a poem about snowflakes (10 min)

- ✓ Brainstorm as a class snow words and words to describe snow.
- ✓ Make a snow word bank and have the children write their own poem.
- ✓ See “write your own poem” worksheets attached

VII. Wrap Up Exercise

Name of the masterpiece:

Name of the artist:

One nifty fact:

Don't forget the letter home "one-pager"!

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