



Activity: Ice Cube Tower Challenge

You will need

Ice Cubes
Tray
Salt
Ruler

Instructions

Who can make the tallest tower of ice cubes in your family?

Take it in turns to see who can build the tallest tower of one ice cube on top of another. Build the tower on a tray to catch any water as the ice cubes melt. Measure it with the ruler before it topples.

When everyone has had a go try again but this time sprinkle some salt on top of each ice cube & see if you can build a taller tower. Salt lowers the freezing point of water. As it dissolves, the ice melts around each grain of salt. As a result, the ice is unevenly eaten away, forming a pitted, non-skid surface. This is why salt is used to melt ice on roads and walkways.

The salty water also re-freezes on the surface of the ice cubes, joining them together. This happens because the insides of the ice cubes are much colder than the freezing point of water. They are cold enough to draw heat out of the newly melted water and it re-freezes.

Risk Assessment

Who is at risk?	Beavers
What are the risks?	Minimal risk
How can the risks be minimized?	Adequate adult supervision