

Blizzard

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMED: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ART SNOWFLAKE SCIENCE

Wilson Bentley was a self-educated farmer who was also a pioneer in the work of *photomicrography*, or taking pictures of items under a microscope. Using this method, he captured over 2,400 isolated pictures of snowflakes. Show students examples of some of his work (<http://snowflakebentley.com/WBsnowflakes.htm>). Have students make observations about the snowflakes. What do they notice? What similarities do they each have? Are any of them the same? Why not?



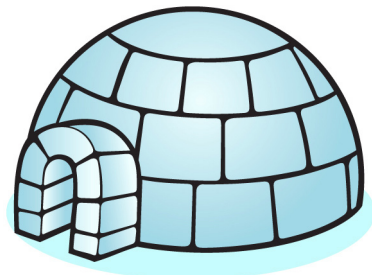
TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE SURVIVAL HANDBOOK

The boy in the story relies on his survival guide for ideas on how to get to the store. Research survival techniques for blizzard conditions. Using a word processor, create a blizzard survival guide individually or with a small group. Decide what kind of safety tips should go into it. What are the most important things to remember in a blizzard? Add pictures from online; be sure to include the *source*. Include headings and a table of contents to make your survival guide easy for readers to use.

ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, MATH IGLOO INVESTIGATIONS

Materials: toothpicks, marshmallows, white frosting, plastic knives

Do some research on igloos or snow huts. How are they constructed? What kinds of tools are needed? What kind of math is involved? Using this information, construct an igloo out of the provided materials. What challenges did you



face in constructing your igloo? What additional challenges might you face if you were outside using snow to build with? In your research, what did you learn about the different peoples who have traditionally built igloos or snow huts? Where is the word igloo from?

ART BLIZZARD BAG

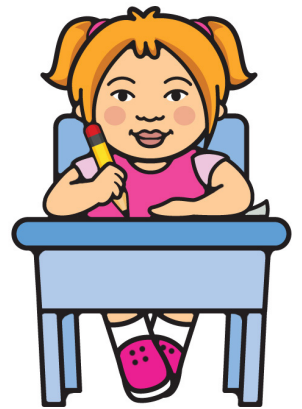
Materials: plastic baggie, permanent marker, white construction paper, flexible straw

Draw a scene on the outside of the baggie using markers. Cut or tear white construction paper into small pieces and place inside the baggie. Insert a straw into the bag and seal the top. Blow into the straw and watch a “blizzard” fill the scene drawn on the front of the baggie.

MATH SYMMETRICAL SNOWFLAKES

Materials: white and blue paper, pencils, scissors, glue

Have each student create a snowflake using the white paper. Once the snowflake has been completed and cut out, glue it to the center of the blue paper. Students should create a line of symmetry by folding the blue paper in half and cutting the snowflake along that line. Have students put all the snowflake halves in a pile and mix them up, then use symmetry to match the halves together again.



Reading Is
Fundamental