Name: _____ Date: _____

Why Does Salt Melt Ice?

A Simple Investigation

Let's put it to the test! Use different safe classroom materials to see what helps ice melt the fastest. Make a prediction, do the experiment, record what happens, and explain your results.

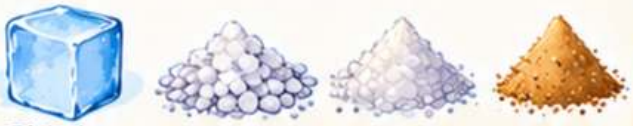


The Science Behind It

Salt lowers the freezing point of water, which helps the ice melt, even when it's cold outside.

1 Make a Prediction

Which material do you think will melt the ice the fastest? Circle one.



Plain Ice Salt Sugar Sand

Why do you think so?

_____

_____

2 Set Up the Experiment

Place equal-sized ice cubes on four separate plates. Add 1 teaspoon of salt, sugar, or sand to each of three plates. Use a different material on each plate. Leave the fourth plate plain.



Label each plate:

_____

_____

3 Observe and Measure

Check your ice cubes at regular times. Record how much ice is left (or how much water is around it).

Material	Time 1 (After 5 min)	Time 2 (After 10 min)	Time 3 (After 15 min)
Plain Ice			
Salt			
Sugar			
Sand			

4 Explain Your Results

Which material worked best? Why?

_____

_____

What did you learn about salt and ice?

_____

_____

_____

How does this help in real life?

_____

_____

_____

Think Like a Scientist

What was the most surprising part?

_____

_____

_____

What would you like to test next?

_____

_____

_____

Did sugar surprise you? Why?

_____

_____

_____

Real-World Connection

Salt is often used on icy roads and sidewalks to help keep us safe in winter.

Good Tidings, where reading feels like fun.