



Winter Wonders Activities



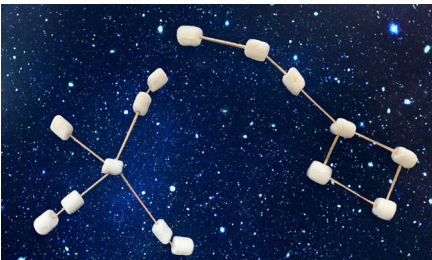
Pinecone Tricks

What happens to a pinecone in water? Use jars of cool and warm water and found pinecones. Remember to return them to nature when you are finished. Drop your pinecones and prepare to be amazed! Think about why pinecones change in different temperatures. Record your observations and share with a friend!



How Do Animals Stay Warm in the Cold?

Have you ever wondered how animals in cold water habitats stay warm? Try an exhilarating “blubber” and ice water experiment to find out! Use plastic bags, vegetable shortening, and bowls of ice water to see how insulation keeps animals like California Sea lions, penguins, whales, seals, and polar bears warm in extremely cold temperatures. Can you find any other ways animals stay warm in the winter?



Starry Night Marshmallow Constellations

Wintertime is one of the best times of year to observe the night sky. Many clear nights provide spectacular views of the stars early in the evening. Create your own constellations with miniature marshmallows and toothpicks. Dip your constellation in a cup of hot cocoa to end the night on sweet note. Be sure to look up before bedtime each night!