



Melting Ice

Grade Levels: 1-4

Background

Energy comes in many different forms, and often, those forms can change into other forms of energy. For example, when you eat food then run, the chemical energy from the food turns into motion. Chemical energy can change into other forms of energy too.

Question

Will salt make ice melt faster?

Possible Hypothesis

Salt will/will not make ice melt faster.

Materials

- 4 Ice cubes —the same size
- 4 Small plastic cups
- Marker
- Salt
- Teaspoon

Procedure

1. Place one ice cube in each cup.
2. One cup will only have an ice cube with no salt. Mark this cup "0." Place one teaspoon of salt in the next cup, and mark it "1." Place two teaspoons into the next cup and mark it "2." Finally, put 3 teaspoons in the last cup and mark it "3."
3. Place the cups in a sunny place and observe. You can also use a stopwatch to record the time.

Analysis and Conclusion

Which ice cube melted fastest? Did salt make the ice melt faster?

Real World Connection

On an icy day, how could you make your driveway safer?

