COMPLETE STORY + QUIZ

Sofia Saves the Melting Ice Castle

Sofia Saves the Melting Ice Castle | Suggested ages 5-6



Sofia compares shade and simple insulating wraps to slow an ice castle's melting during an outdoor display.

Read, talk, and discover

The complete story is followed by questions and a separate answer guide. Read aloud together, pause to talk, and take your time.

Print on US Letter at actual size, or choose Fit for A4. Use single-sided printing for activity cards. Black-and-white printing is suitable.

Part 1

Sofia made three tiny ice towers for a summer science display. She wanted to learn how to keep one frozen longer.

Part 2

She left the first tower in direct sunlight. Water quickly gathered in its tray, and the pointed roof became round.

Part 3

Sofia placed the second tower under a shade umbrella. It melted more slowly because the hot sunlight did not shine directly on it.

Part 4

She loosely wrapped the third shaded tower with a piece of felt. The felt trapped still air and helped slow heat moving toward the ice.

Part 5

At first, Sofia wrapped the felt too tightly and crushed one small turret. She rebuilt it and left gentle space around the sides.

Part 6

After ten minutes, she poured each tray's meltwater into matching cups. The shaded, felt-wrapped tower had the least water.

Part 7

Sofia displayed that tower only for a short time, then returned the ice to a freezer-safe container with Mom's help.

Part 8

Sofia learned that shade reduces heat from sunlight and insulation slows heat moving inward. Careful measuring showed which plan worked best.

Draw, tell, or write

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.

My favorite part, and why I chose it

STORY QUIZ

Think about the story

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Read each question and all the choices. Circle one answer. A grown-up can read aloud; you can point or say your answer, too.

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1. What happened to the tower in direct sunlight?

A. It grew taller	B. It melted quickly	C. It turned into snow

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

2. Why did the shaded tower melt more slowly?

A. The umbrella made ice	B. The tray was blue	C. Direct sunlight did not reach it

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

3. What did the felt trap around the ice?

A. A layer of still air	B. A cloud of smoke	C. A pile of sand

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

Questions 4 to 5

4. How did Sofia compare the melting?

A. She guessed with closed eyes	B. She measured meltwater in matching cups	C. She counted the tower colors

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

5. What two ideas slowed melting?

A. Bright sun and stirring	B. Salt and warm water	C. Shade and insulation

Tell someone how you decided, or write a few words.

ANSWER GUIDE

For the grown-up

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Keep this page separate from the child's activity. Read directions aloud when helpful, and invite the child to explain their ideas.

1. B - It melted quickly

It melted quickly

2. C - Direct sunlight did not reach it

Direct sunlight did not reach it

3. A - A layer of still air

A layer of still air

4. B - She measured meltwater in matching cups

She measured meltwater in matching cups

5. C - Shade and insulation

Shade and insulation

Keep exploring

Draw your favorite part of the story. Tell a grown-up what happened before it and what happened next.