Bring on the snow

Winter and snow just go together where the Kid lives: Children love it; adults, not so much.

Just like every person looks different, each snowflake has its own look. The Kid wanted to know why.

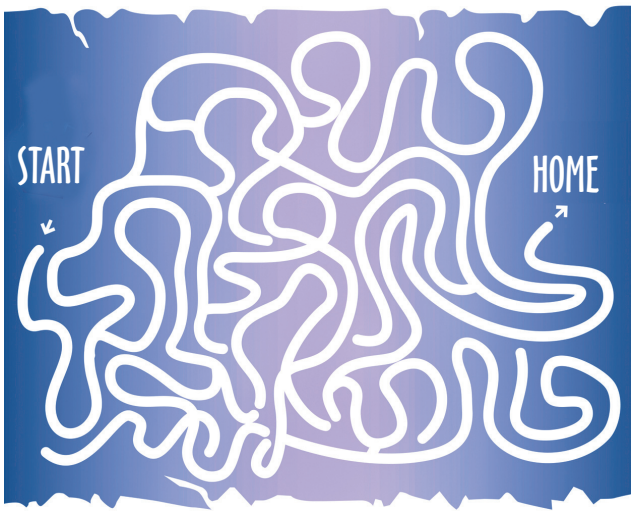
Snowflakes are created in clouds, which are formed from water vapor. The magic temperature is at or below 32° F (Fahrenheit, or 0° on the C or Celsius scale). That's when water will change to ice. Air currents and humidity also play a part in the shape and size of the snowflake.

Snowflakes start their journey from high up in the earth's atmosphere. They begin their journey to earth as dust, rain or tiny ice crystals.

They fall through several temperature changes. Condensation starts when there is the air is very moist. The little drops of condensation start to stick together. If the atmosphere is cold enough the tiny drops begin to freeze.

Those drops become ice crystals and eventually snowflakes, which is how snowflakes develop into varying shapes.

As the snowflake falls to the Earth it may go through many different environmental conditions. Sometimes it melts, and then refreezes before hitting the ground. All these changes play a role in the shape and size of the snowflake.



Find you way home through the snow tunnel.

Newspaper Activity

You can make paper snowflakes using white paper or a sheet of your newspaper, a compass, a pencil, and blunt scissors.

Draw a 4-inch circle on a piece of paper using the compass. Cut it out.

To make a four-point snowflake, fold the circle in half. Then fold it again. For an eight-point snowflake, fold it in half again.

Cut little bits from the paper with the scissors. Cut into both sides, top, and point. You can also Use a hole punch or pinking shears.

When you finish the snowflake, punch a hole and run string through it so you can hang it up.

NEWSPAPERS BRING FAMILIES TOGETHER