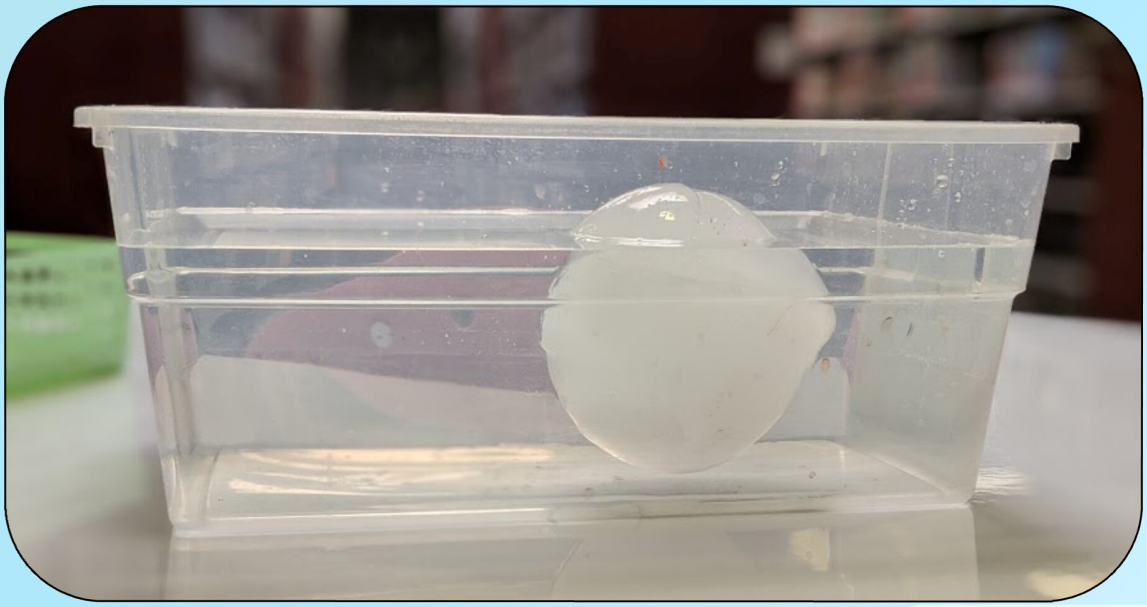
Ice Balloon Science



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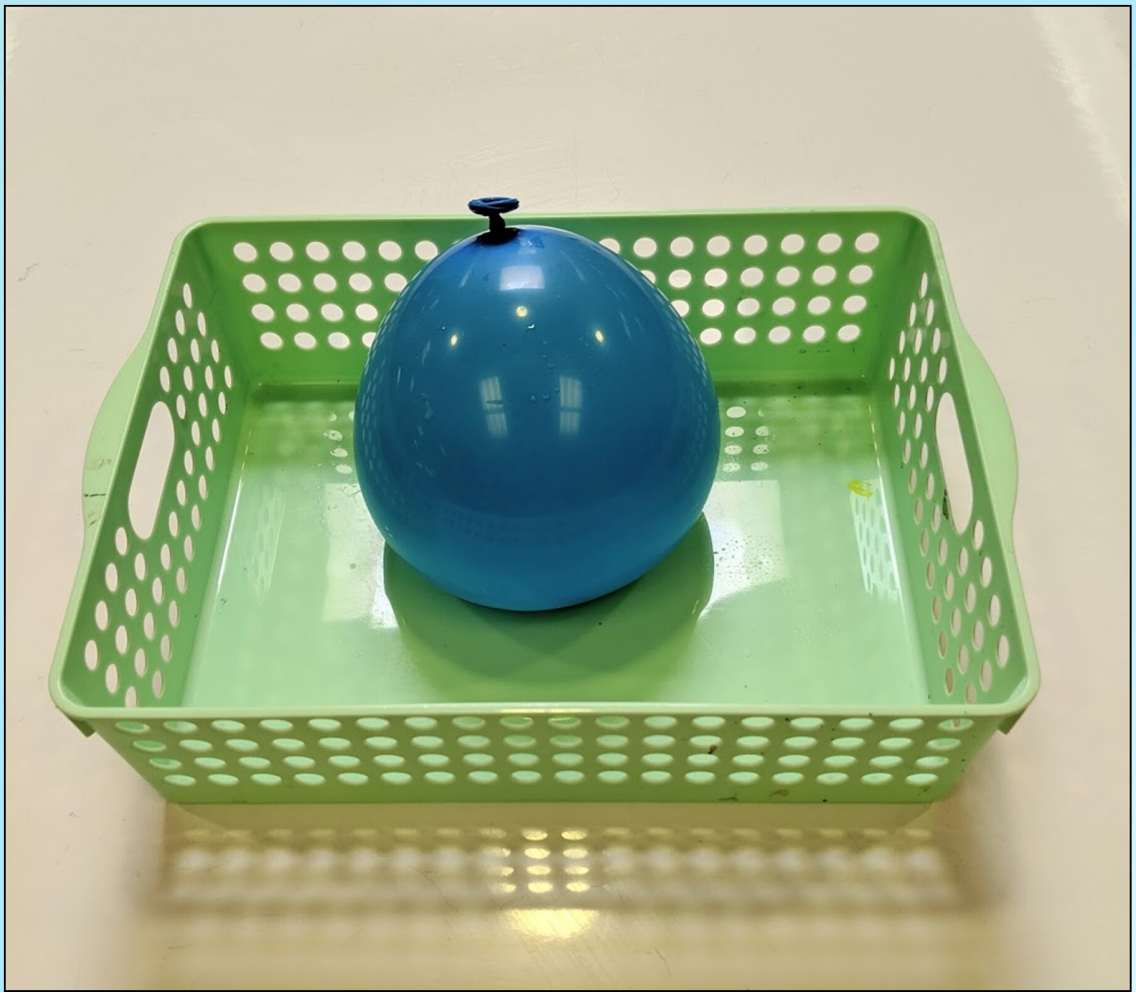
Supplies Needed:

-Balloons
-Food Coloring
-Freezer
-Salt
-Shallow and Deep Containers
-Water

Use a sink or a garden hose to fill a balloon with water.

Try to squeeze any extra air out of the balloon, so there's no big bubbles. Then tie it tightly.

To make it easier to carry, place your balloon in a shallow container and place in the freezer. Let it freeze for a day or two.

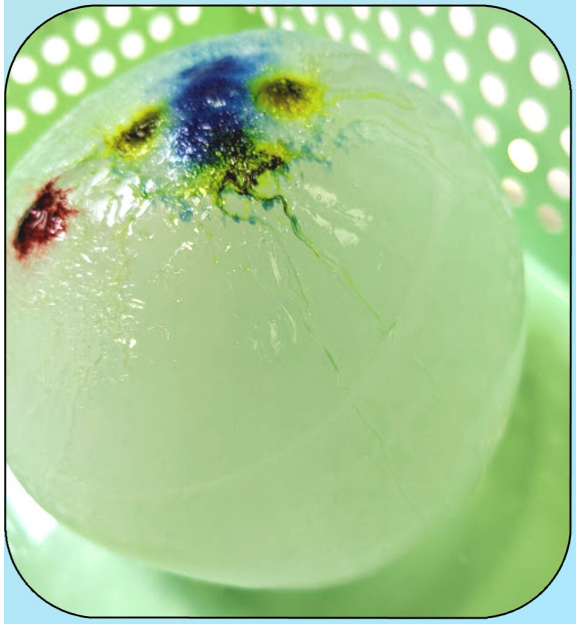


When the ice inside is fully frozen, cut the balloon and peel it off.

Place your ice balloon in the shallow container.

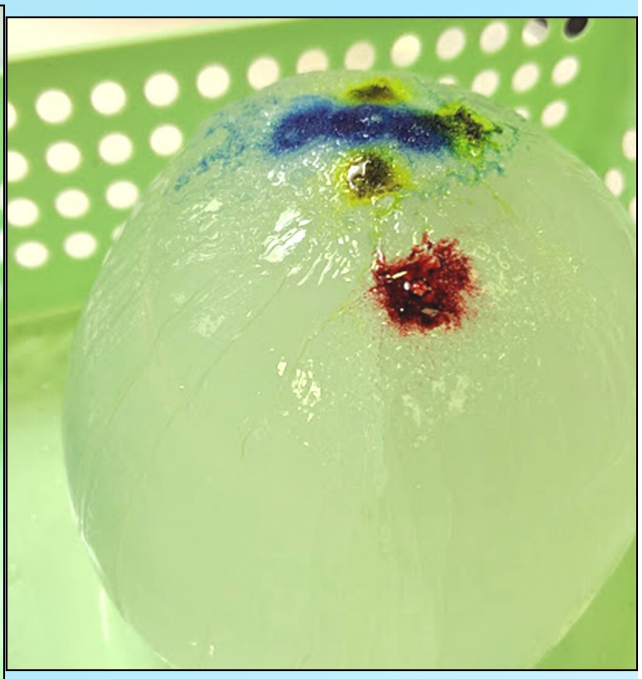
You could also use a cookie sheet.

Sprinkle some salt and a few drops of food coloring on top of your ice. What happens to the ice?



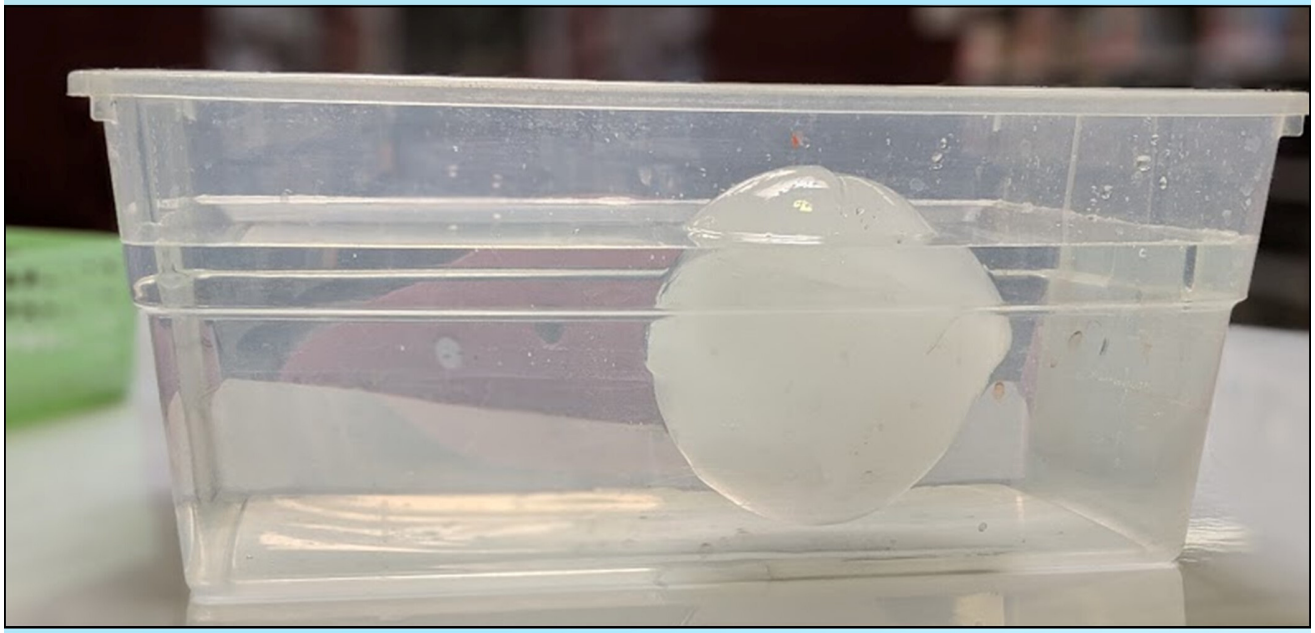
Salt changes the melting temperature of the ice and makes it melt faster. Watch the melting water make colored channels as it flows down the balloon.

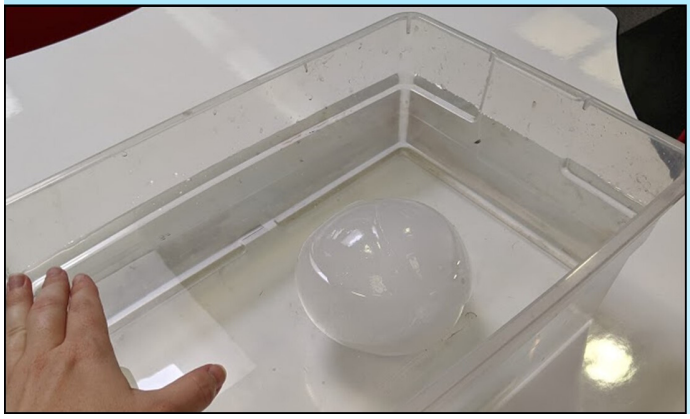
Rinse off your balloon and try again with more salt and color if you want to. Make some observations about what happens!



You can also try other substances like sugar to see how that affects melting!

Rinse off your ice balloon. Now try this:
Fill the deep container with water and place your ice balloon in the water. Does it float or sink?





Why do you think it acts this way? Is it like a glacier in the ocean?

Thanks for exploring with us!

Loved that experiment?
Check out more online science resources from your library!

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