# Campbell Creek Science Center

## Ice Blocks

Ice is an almost magical natural phenomenon. Here's a fun way to use ice to create something beautiful. If you want, experiment with this procedure to achieve different results.

#### **Directions**

- 1. Gather interesting natural materials (spruce cones, sticks, rocks, leaves, etc.) from outside.
- 2. Fill one or more containers with water. Then add your natural materials.
- 3. Set the containers outside overnight to freeze. (If it's not cold enough outside, put the containers in the freezer.)
- 4. Once they have frozen solid, remove the ice blocks from the containers. If you're having trouble, briefly run the containers under hot water to loosen the ice.
- 5. Use your blocks to create interesting outdoor sculptures.



### **Materials**

- Assortment of recycled plastic containers (bowls, empty yogurt tubs, etc.)
- Natural items

## **Questions**

- Which items sank to the bottom when you put them in the water?
- Which items floated?
- Will your ice block melt if you leave it outside today? If so, how long do you think it will take to melt?
- What could you do differently so that heavy items end up frozen off the bottom at the end?



