

Building an Inuit Igloo

The Arctic is one of the coldest environments on Earth. Winters are long with few hours of daylight. Before they lived in modern homes, the Inuit had to adapt to this extreme climate. The Inuit people built sturdy shelters to protect themselves from the harsh winds and bitter cold. The Inuit word for home is “igloo.” During the summer, the igloos were made from a wooden frame with animal skins and whale bones. During the winter, however, igloos were made from blocks of ice!

Scholars will work in small groups to create their igloos. If necessary, you could also create one class igloo that all scholars add to over the course of a couple days. If you choose to go the whole class, or two large groups, you can use a hot glue gun in lieu of white glue and have a teacher apply the glue.

You will need:





- Sugar Cubes (one box = one igloo)
- Cardboard
- White Glue (or hot glue if teacher assisted)
- White Paint





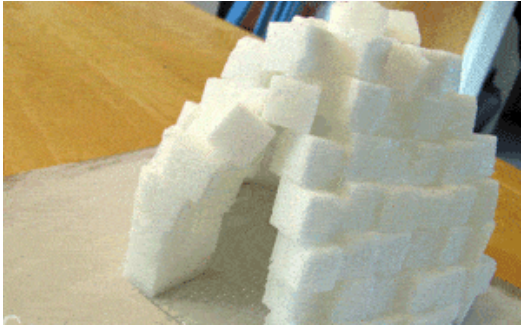
Steps:

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| 1 | Pour your sugar cubes into a dish. | A photograph showing the materials for the project. A white bowl filled with sugar cubes sits on a wooden table. Next to it is a red tray with a piece of cardboard on it. A red glue stick is also visible in the background. |
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| 2 | Cover your cardboard with white paint. |  |
| 3 | Draw out the shape of your igloo. Don't forget a doorway. |  |
| 4 | Put down a layer of glue along your igloo shape, and begin to build your igloo. |  |
| 5 | When you start your second layer, you want to build a little bit inwards so that your igloo will come together. |  |

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| 6 | <p>Continue to build up and in. If you can stagger the cubes a bit it will be somewhat sturdier.</p> |  |
| 7 | <p>Let your layers dry.</p> |  |
| 8 | <p>You can add to your Arctic scene by filling up the cardboard area. Maybe making an Inuit family, an ice fishing hole, various animals outside...it's up to you!</p> |  |