



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore
www.nps.gov/piro/forteachers.htm

Education Outreach
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“Exploring the World of Snowflakes and Tracks” Winter Pre-School Outdoor Activity

Michigan Science Objectives: At the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Based on their observation, state that snowflakes and animal tracks are not alike (Reflecting on Scientific Knowledge 3).
2. Imitate movement of animals making tracks in the snow (Reflecting on Scientific Knowledge).

Thinking Skills: Making analogies, compare and contrast.

Overview of Activity: Students will catch snowflakes and identify them; they will look for and identify animal tracks.

National Park Connection: National Parks provide great places to find animal tracks!

Procedure:

1. Review use of hand lenses.
2. Outside use “snowflake catchers” (laminated black 3x5 construction paper taped to craft sticks) to catch and identify using laminated snowflake identification chart (appendix 3).
3. Distribute laminated animal track cards, look for, and identify animal tracks found!

Materials needed: hand lenses, snowflake catchers, laminated snowflake ID charts and laminated animal track sheets.

