

NATURE CRAFT

PAPER PLATE SNOWFLAKES

Snowflakes form when an extremely cold water droplet freezes around a speck of dust, creating a tiny ice crystal. As the ice crystal moves through the clouds, water vapor freezes to it, creating a snowflake that eventually becomes heavy enough to fall to the earth.

Snowflakes are six-sided in shape because of the structure of the water molecule and symmetrical because the six arms experience the same atmospheric conditions simultaneously. Changes of humidity and temperature impact the way snowflakes grow, and it is very unlikely that two ice crystals will follow the exact same path through the clouds. For this reason, it is believed that no two snowflakes are alike, especially in large, complex structures!



Continue the discussion while crafting your own unique snowflakes. This paper plate craft holds more paint than other paper snowflake crafts, making them much more fun for kids to decorate without the risk of tearing their artwork. For a wintery look, suggest blue, purple, and silver colors or let your child's imagination soar, using their favorite colors and materials.

MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER PLATE SNOWFLAKES

MATERIALS

paper plates, scissors, and any available decorative materials (paint, watercolor paints, paint brushes, crayons, glitter, pom poms, glue etc...)

DIRECTIONS

1. Fold your paper plate in half, then in half again, and in half one more time so that there are eight layers of paper plate folded on top of each other
2. Cut shapes into your paper plate to create a snowflake (younger kids will probably need help for this step)
3. Unfold and decorate your paper plate snowflake with watercolor paints, crayons, glitter, pom poms, and more