

Bishop Paiute Environmental Hands on Science Activity



On May 16, the teachers at Head Start hosted the Air Program and did weather science activities in class groups. First, the kids joined forces with their mates to melt a block of ice, an experiment on how solid ice versus ice with things inside including air, melts slow or faster. The kids used cups and squirt bottles with water colored by sugar sprinkles and food dye, and of course everyone pitching in to the effort, to get their mini-icebergs to disappear. When needed, we used the “secret weapon” of ice melting, which some of the kids could name- salt- to demonstrate how it makes ice melt faster. We also used warm water in the final push. The kids had lots of comments on how fast, slow, cold, or colorful their melting ice was! After the action was over, the teachers helped the kids get ready to observe what happens when colored liquid is added to foam “clouds in a jar”... that is, the “clouds” get oversaturated and “rain” into the “sky” below. Some of the jars rained slowly and made neat color swirls; others got shaken into storms! We also experimented with adding “snow” sprinkles to dissolve in the jars. Again, lots of observations were made by the kids on what happened in their jars. If parents are interested in the ice melting activity for home on a hot day, consider hiding something special in the ice for discovery! **Article by Emma Ruppell, Pictures by Mandy Miloradich**

