



# From the Air Quality Program Snow and Ice Week February 23-25 at the Bishop Indian Education Center



During Snow and Ice week the Bishop Air Program in cooperation with EMO staff, the Lone Pine Air Program and the Owens Valley Indian Water Commission carried out another exciting series of activities for the kids in the tutoring program. The purpose was to teach them some of the basics of how snow flakes are made.

We started out with a quicktime video of the recent winter storms arriving into the Bishop area. We used the hourly photographs from the Tribe's web camera and Tom Gustie added some exciting sound effects. Next the kids looked at actual snow flakes through a microscope. These snowflakes were captured using superglue and glass slides. The kids were amazed at how small a single snow flake is! Then the kids looked at snowflakes that we grew in soda bottles using dry ice, fishing line, a paper clip, a sponge and some Styrofoam cups. We talked about how the "home grown" snowflakes looked different from the ones that tumbled down from the sky. Finally, the kids saw videos of avalanches and we explained how avalanches can be started. At the end, the kids decorated cookies shaped like snow flakes!

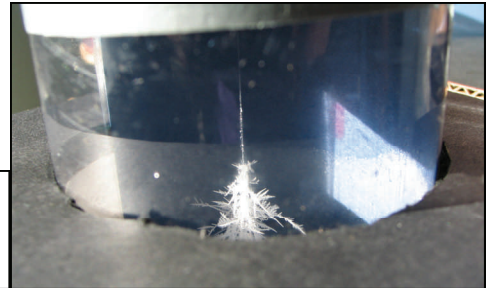
We want to give special thanks to Northern Inyo Hospital for providing the dry ice and to Dr. Kenneth G. Libbrecht for his excellent website that inspired the whole process.

<http://www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/>

Checking it out under the microscope



A home-grown snowflake



Cookie fest!



Avalanche in action!



The geek squad