



Observing Changes in Snow Depth

The Big Idea of this Activity:

The timing and amount of snowfall throughout the year are changing in many places around the world. This can impact our ecosystems and how much clean water we have to drink. We can track these changes by taking measurements through time.

Materials: pencil, measuring stick, snow depth data sheet, clip board

Procedure:

1. Go out to revisit and measure the snow depth at your site.
2. Remember to take measurements in 3 undisturbed locations at your site.
3. Push your measuring stick all the way down to the ground and record the 3 depths on the snow depth data sheet.
4. Continue to go out to take measurements of your site as many times as you are able. Record the data on the snow depth sheets each time



Think About It: Before going out, stop and think about what is happening in your site. Has the amount of snow change over time? Has it snowed more or has there been less snow? Is the weather changing? How? Has the amount of sunlight changed? Does the snow look and feel the same? Is the snow fluffy? Is it dry or wet? Is it Heavy or light? Are there animal tracks near your site or any other disturbances?



Snow Depth

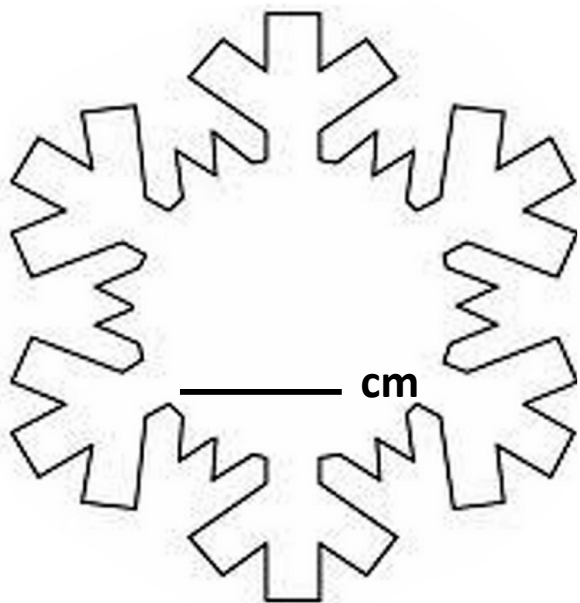
Date: _____

Name: _____

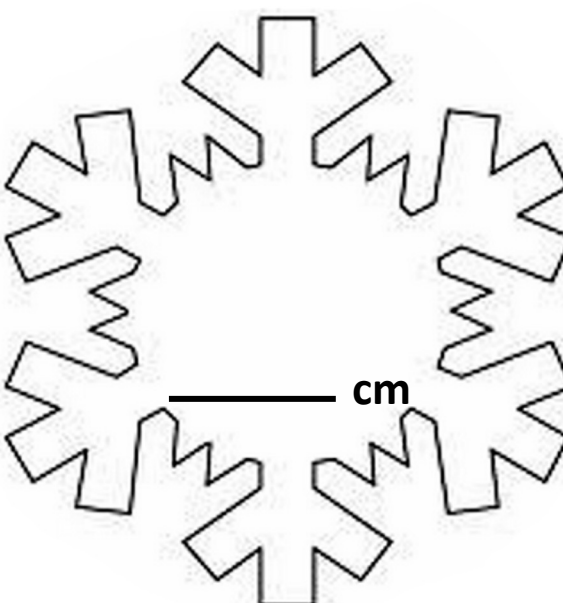
Location (address or GPS coordinates):

Instructions:

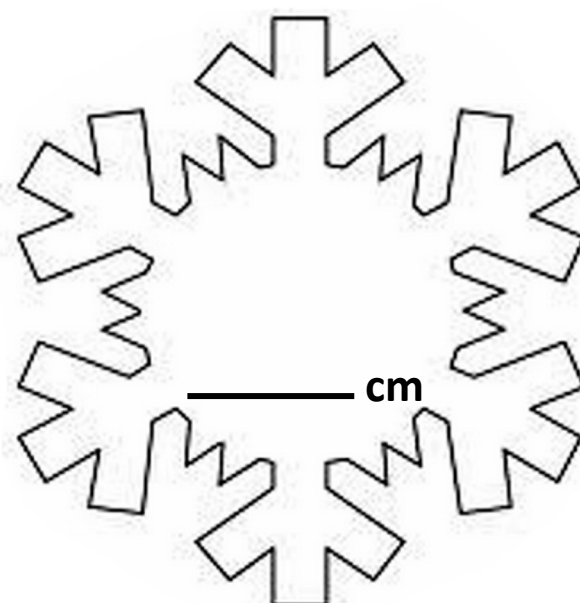
1. Measure snow depth in 3 locations at your site. Be sure to push your measuring stick all the way down to the ground.
2. Record your measurements below.
3. Enter them on the online form or give this to your teacher or club leader for the University of Alaska Fairbanks to send the data to NASA and GLOBE to help understand snow around the world.



Measurement 1



Measurement 2



Measurement 3