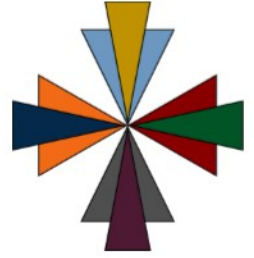




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Glacier at Home!



Have you ever wondered how the Finger Lakes were made? Here is a fun STEM experiment that you and your family can do at home to see how glaciers helped to create our beautiful area that we call home. Here is a list of things that you may already have in your house that you can use to do this experiment:

- 1 quart ziploc bag
- Food coloring (blue)
- Water
- Spoon
- Sand, gravel or dirt
- Baking sheet
- Cooking spray
- 2 cups flour



Half-fill a Ziploc bag with water. Add blue food coloring until you achieve the shade of blue you want. Close the bag (tight!) and slightly shake it to mix the coloring and water.

Fill the bag the rest of the way with sand, gravel or dirt and mix them together. Place the bag in the freezer overnight. Amazingly, the mixture of water, food dye and dirt will...well, just wait and see.

Set a baking sheet at a slight angle on the table and spray the surface with cooking spray. Sprinkle 2 cups of flour over the baking sheet, distributing it as evenly as you can manage.

Remove the frozen mixture of sand, water and food coloring from the freezer. Allowing the bag to sit for a short while will make it easier to extract your glacier.

Place your glacier on the higher end of your baking sheet. Now let gravity do its job and watch your glacier slide from one side of the sheet to the other (this will take some time, check on it every 4-5 minutes). What is happening? What are the changes in the depth of the flour? What happens to the sand mixture once your glacier is melted? Do you think this is what happened as glaciers moved southward across the northern hemisphere and created our Finger Lakes and gorges?

Like always, share photos of your experiment