Ice Bubbles!
Cold weather twist on an old favorite

Play is a means of deep learning for young children. In Gaffield Children’s Garden, we provide rich, open-ended Nature Play experiences. We are committed to it knowing that these experiences will become an essential part of the child, will be transformed into intellectual pursuits, imaginative pursuits, support physical and emotional health, and promote positive regard for the Earth now and into adulthood. We encourage families to participate and replicate what we do here, in their own homes, apartments, and parks. Here is a recipe for Nature Play at Home: Ice Bubbles!

**SUPPLIES**
- Must be below freezing outdoors for this play; temps in single digits allow for the best winter bubbles.
- Dress for cold, freezing weather, bring extra mittens/gloves, if possible.
- Bubble solution and wands.
- Model your curiosity: “Hey, I wonder if bubbles freeze?”

**WAYS TO PLAY**
- Go outdoors for an adventure -- adventures are always way more fun than a ‘walk.’
- Set up bubbles supplies and try blowing them, in the air, near the Earth, under trees, in grass, on pavement.
- This play can be extended to all matter of things that freeze.

**EXTEND THE PLAY**
- Look around your park, school grounds, or yard for other sources of ice and things frozen.
- Try at different times of day, different temperatures.
- No need to directly teach science concepts of freezing, however if older children wish to discover more, encourage them to set up experiments of their own design, or do some reading back at home.

**CONSIDER**
- After introducing the game, remember to let the kiddos lead the way.
- Outdoor play is a natural way to foster children’s burgeoning understanding of themselves in relationship to the world.
- Spending time outdoors as a family fosters family values.
- For a homemade bubble solution, see https://mbgna.umich.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/August-3-2020-NPPU-Bubbles.pdf

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