



E7



SNOW MAIDEN



10-15 minutes



To review and extend understanding of transformations of the states of water
To know that heat turns ice to water, and water to steam
To know that a solid can transform into a liquid, and that a liquid can transform into a gas



- ❖ The story of 'Snow Maiden' - see the next page
- ❖ The characters and key objects from the story:



- ❖ A blank piece of paper
- ❖ An orange pen or crayon



Tell your child the story of the 'Snow Maiden'. As you tell it, use the pictures provided to introduce the characters and key objects, and to help illustrate the story.

When you have finished telling the story, put out the three states of Snow Maiden (see below) and ask your child to put them in order from left to right, to show the sequence of the main transformations of water in the story, on the blank sheet of paper. Support them as necessary to identify how the Snow Maiden first becomes water, and then becomes a cloud of steam.



Finally, ask them: *What caused this change of state? How did the snow (Snow Maiden) become droplets of water, a liquid, and how did the water in turn become steam, a gas, in the air?* Establish how the heat from the fire caused these changes of state.

Ask your child to draw 'hot arrows' from one state to the other, using the orange pen or crayon, to 'show the heat' that caused the transformations in the story:



Recap by 'reading' the sequence they have created and pointing at each state as you say it: *The solid, the snow, became liquid, the water, and that became gas, the steam. Solid then liquid then gas!*



Your child can explain the sequence of transformation of the Snow Maiden first into water and then into a cloud of steam.



KEY TO LEARNING
@HOME



SNOW MAIDEN – Story

Once upon a time, Father Frost and his granddaughter, Snow Maiden, lived together (show their pictures). Snow Maiden was an unusual young girl; she was made of snow but looked real. Father Frost loved his granddaughter, Snow Maiden. She helped him to look after his kingdom of ice and snow and deliver presents to children at Christmas. Father Frost always took Snow Maiden with him on his journeys to the forest but there was one condition – Snow Maiden was not allowed to stay in the sun for any length of time (show the sun). He would not let her go to the forest if the sun was out. (Ask your child why Snow Maiden has to stay away from the sun – establish the fact that if she goes out in the sun, she will melt.)

Snow Maiden could not go out into the sunlight as she was made of snow. But in winter, we do not often see the sun and even when it is out it does not shine warmly. That is why Snow Maiden could spend a lot of time in the forest in winter.

Once, Father Frost and Snow Maiden saw a small hut where an old man and an old woman lived (show their pictures). They had lived in that hut all their lives, but they never had any children. 'If only we could have a granddaughter', they wished, 'so that we would have some joy in our old age'. Snow Maiden knew they wanted a granddaughter and she saw how hard their life was. In winter, drifts of snow surrounded their hut so that they could not open the door, and they had to go such a long way to fetch water from the river! Snow Maiden asked Father Frost to let her spend the winter with the old man and his wife so that she could help them through the cold, bitter months. After some thought Father Frost said, 'It is very good that you want to help the old people. I will let you go and live with them. But remember, my dearest granddaughter, as soon as winter is over and spring comes, you must avoid the sun. Come back home straight away.'

'Thank you, Grandfather', said Snow Maiden happily and she went to live with the old man and his wife in their little hut. Snow Maiden helped them through the cold winter and they were all very happy (show the old man, his wife and Snow Maiden together). They were so happy that the Snow Maiden forgot she had to return home as soon as spring came. And suddenly spring was already there – winter was beginning to turn into summer. The sun felt warmer, the snow was melting, spring streams were beginning to flow. It was still as cold as winter in the evenings though, because spring is not yet summer even though it is no longer winter.

Snow Maiden was afraid of the sun so she stayed indoors when the sun was out – she remembered Father Frost's words. But one day there was a big party in the village to celebrate the end of cold, cold winter - and all the young girls and boys gathered together to sing and dance. The old man and his wife felt sorry for Snow Maiden. 'Why do you stay at home all the time?' they asked. 'Go and join the other young people, have some fun, dance and sing with them.' Snow Maiden thought about it, looked out of the window and saw that the sun was hidden behind the clouds. She heard the children singing and laughing and she longed to join them. 'I will go!' she decided.

So Snow Maiden went to the party and played and danced with all the other young people. In the evening there was a huge bonfire (show the picture). All the young boys and girls started jumping over it. Only Snow Maiden did not take part in that game. 'Snow Maiden, it's your turn! Don't be afraid! Jump!' they shouted. Snow Maiden saw that nothing had happened to all the others. She looked for the sun, but there was no sun in the sky. Father Frost had never warned her about fire. Poor Snow Maiden, she knew that she had to be afraid of the heat of the sun. But she did not know that the sun is not the only thing that gives out heat. She did not know that fires are also hot. She jumped, and when she jumped the heat of the fire turned her snow into many small droplets of water (show the picture). Then the heat of the fire turned those drops of water into a white cloud of steam above the fire that rose higher and higher until suddenly everybody could see a cloud exactly the same shape as the Snow Maiden high up in the sky. She was no longer Snow Maiden – now she was Cloud Girl (show the picture). And as a cloud she drifted further and further away.

Cut out each character separately - Father Frost, Snow Maiden, the old man and the old woman.



Cut out each image/symbol separately - Cloud Girl, the sun, the bonfire and the drops of water.

