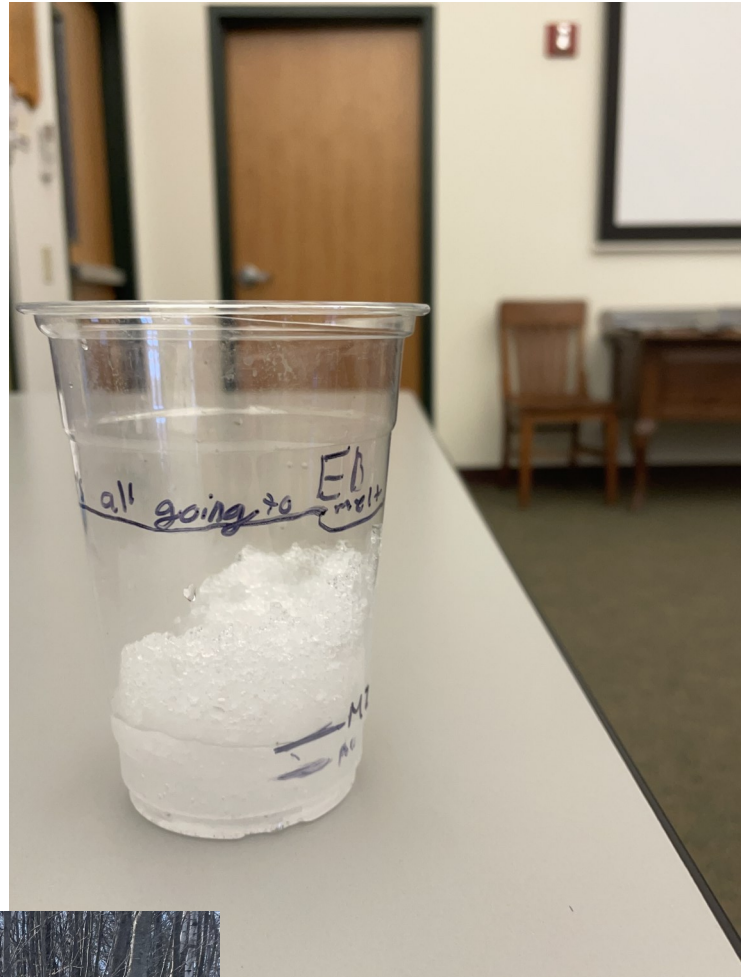


WAJ Science Club Summary —#3

March 9, 2023

4-H Agriculture Educator: Athena Conzone **Students:** 14

During the March science club meeting, we discussed and explored the topic of snow science. We began by discussing what snow is and how it relates to other forms of water that we interact with on a daily basis. We then performed a snow-melt experiment where youth predicted the rate at which snow melts at room temperature.



As we waited for our snow to melt, we ventured outside on a winter scavenger-hunt. During our winter scavenger-hunt, we discussed the pressures that climate change has placed on the ecosystem within the winter months. Along the “hunt” we stumbled upon a few tapped maple trees, and discussed the science behind maple sugaring operations.



Once we came inside, the youth broke into groups and we discussed the subnivean layer and the animals that reside within this layer. Then, the groups were able to construct their own subnivean layer out of various materials. Finally, we discussed another solid form of water: ice. During this conversation, we discussed why salt is used to melt snow and ice during winter storms. The youth were able to test this theory in a hands-on ice melting experiment. Youth left this club with a deeper understanding of the science behind snow and its role in sustaining the health of New York's ecosystems.



Cornell Cooperative Extension
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