

Snow Rollers



Snow rollers are a meteorological phenomenon in which cylindrical snowballs are formed naturally as chunks of snow roll down hill or are blown along the ground by wind, forming hollow cylinders and picking up further snow along the way, in much the same way that the large snowballs used in snowmen are made. Snow rollers can be as small as a tennis ball, or larger than a car. This rare weather phenomenon can be used to introduce topics such as weather patterns, meteorological forecasting, and inspire discussions on the specific conditions needed for particular weather events to occur.

Additional Resources:

- National Geographic video and article [Why Snow Is Forming Donut-shape Spirals in Canada](#)
- The Weather Network video [What are snow rollers and how do they form?](#)
- Butler County Journal News article [Weird weather phenomenon catches snowmobiler by surprise](#)

Performance Standards

Kindergarten	3 rd Grade	Middle School
K-ESS-1.1. Use and share observations of local weather conditions to describe patterns over time, which includes the 4 seasons.	3-ESS-1.1. Represent data in tables and graphical displays to describe typical weather conditions expected during a particular season.	MS-ESS-2.5. Collect data to provide evidence for how the motions and complex interactions of air masses results in changes in weather conditions.



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