



Name _____

Date _____

SNOWFLAKES

A snowflake is essentially a piece of ice falling to the ground. A snowflake is a crystalline form of ice. Snowflakes come in many different forms and shapes. It is said that no two snowflakes are ever alike. So while each snowflake is unique, snowflakes do have characteristics in common. They are all hexagonal. This means that they all have six sides or branches. Snowflakes are also symmetrical.

There are many different types of snowflakes. One of the forms is called the stellar dendrites. This form looks like six trees extending from the center. Another form is the sector plate. These snowflakes have plate-like arms that extend from the center. These are made from flat, slender pieces of ice.

Spatial dendrites are another form of snowflake. These snowflakes are not flat and slender pieces of ice. These snowflakes are made from individual snowflakes all jumbled up together. Branches of these crystals extend from the center.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What do sector plate snowflakes look like?
 - a. six trees extending from the center
 - b. crystalline form of water ice
 - c. individual snowflakes all jumbled together
 - d. six plate-like arms that extend from center

2. What do all snowflakes have in common?

3. What is the meaning of the word *extend* as used in the passage?

a. scared	c. excitable
b. steady	d. lengthen

4. Where would you read to find out about stellar dendrites?
 - a. first paragraph
 - b. beginning of the second paragraph
 - c. end of the third paragraph
 - d. second paragraph