The Story of Snow

Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are plate crystals.

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The Story of Snow

1. What makes clouds visible?

2. Explain why snow crystals need a speck to begin.

3. What are some types of “specks” that can form snow crystals?

4. Explain the process a speck goes through to become a snow crystal.

5. Determine the meaning of “sprouting” as used in page 12 of the story.

6. What two factors determine the shape of a snow crystal?
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Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are shaped as stars.

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Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are plate crystals.

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Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are columns.

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Which type of snow crystal can have plate crystals or snow crystals on the ends of it?

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Explain the relationship between the number six and snow crystals.

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According to the text, why are snow crystals rarely perfect?
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13. Explain the relationship between snow crystals and snowflakes.


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15. Determine the meaning of "wither" as used in page 28 of the story.

16. According to the text, what is the best way to see a snow crystal?

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17. Write a fictional narrative from the point of view of a snow crystal as it forms and falls to the ground. Include details from the text in your narrative.

18. Compare and contrast the three different types of snow crystals described in the text.
1. What makes clouds visible:
   The water in clouds reflects light.

2. Explain why snow crystals need a speck to begin:
   Water vapor needs something to stick to.

3. What are some types of specks that can form snow crystals:
   Ash, grain pollen, salt, dirt, bacteria.

4. Explain the process a speck goes through to become a snow crystal:
   Water vapor sticks to the speck and freezes into a hexagonal shape.

5. Determine the meaning of sprouting as used in page 12 of the story:
   Snow crystal branches grow smaller branches.

6. What two factors determine the shape of a snow crystal:
   How wet and how cold the cloud is.

7. Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are shaped as stars:
   Has six similar looking arms which have branches.

8. Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are plate crystals:
   A simple hexagon.

9. Describe the characteristics of snow crystals that are columns:
   Not flat like other crystals, shaped like pencils.

10. Which type of snow crystal can have plate crystals or snow crystals on the end of it:
    Column.

11. Explain the relationship between the number six and snow crystals:
    Water molecules arrange themselves into groups of six.

12. According to the text, why are snow crystals rarely perfect:
    Crystal formation is influenced by random chance.

13. Explain the relationship between snow crystals and snowflakes:
    Snowflakes are made up of snow crystals.

14. Compare and contrast snow crystals and snowflakes:
    Crystals are smaller, flakes are made of crystals.

15. Determine the meaning of wither as used in page 28 of the story:
    Snow crystals are made of ice, once they touch an object they start to melt.

16. According to the story, that is the best way to see a snow crystal:
    Catch one on a piece of cardboard and view with a magnifying glass.

17. Write a fictional narrative from the point of view of a snow crystal as it forms and falls to
    the ground. Include details from the text in your narrative:
    Answers will vary.

18. Compare and contrast the three different types of snow crystals described in the text:
    Stars have six arms extending out from a hexagonal base, plate crystals are just simple
    hexagons, and columns are like plate but not flat.
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