

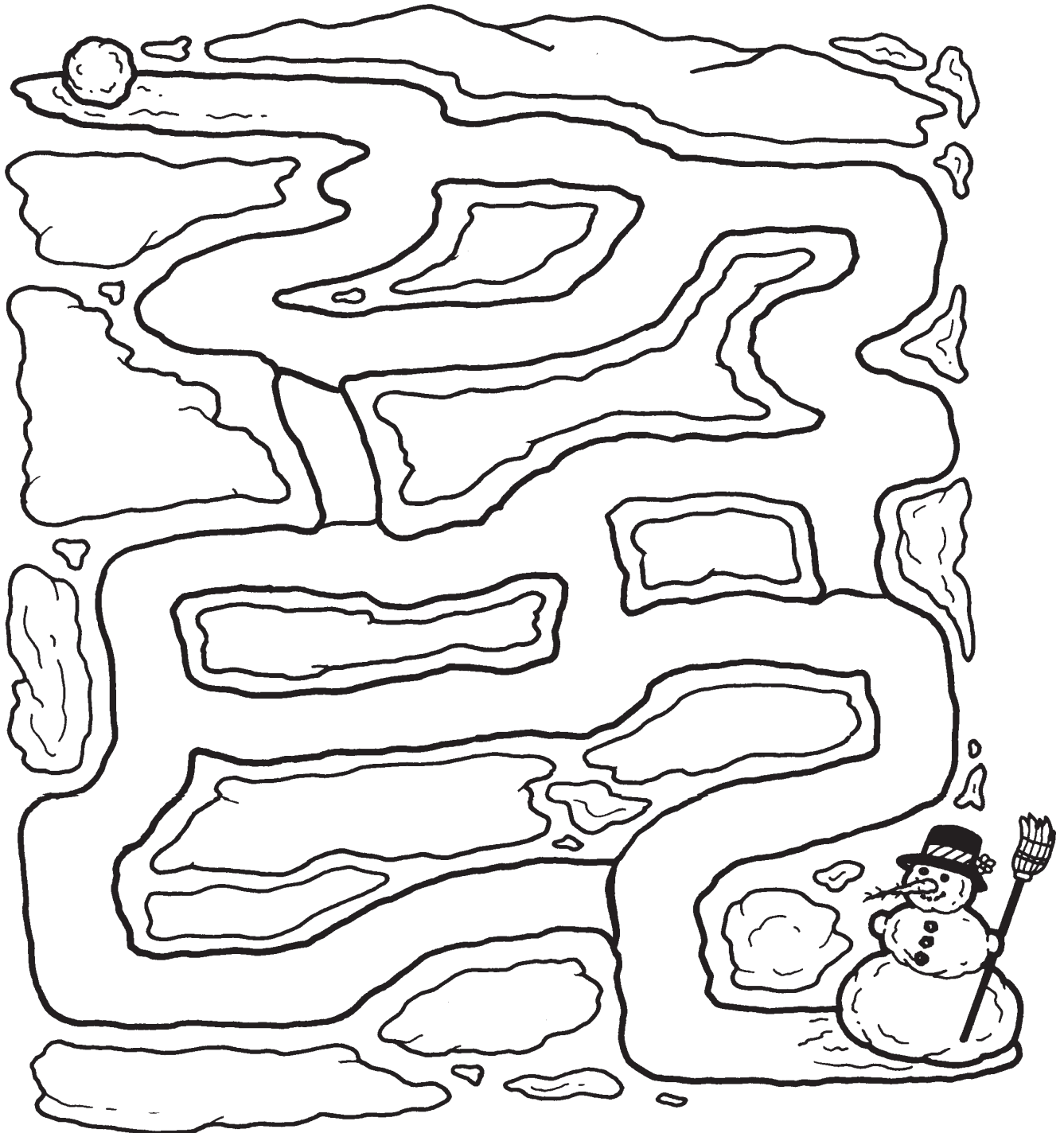
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Snow *(cont.)*

Snowball Maze Activity Page

Directions: Roll the snowball through the maze to build a snowperson.



Wind

Teacher Background: Wind is air in motion. Although we cannot actually see wind, we can see the effects of wind as it moves sailboats, for instance, and we can feel the force of wind on our hands and faces. Wind is caused by the constant rise and fall of warm and cold air, warmer air being lighter, cold air heavier. Most of our weather changes are caused by the wind as it spreads the sun's heat from warm areas to colder ones.

Focus for Science Activities: to demonstrate that air takes up space; to define wind; to demonstrate the power of wind; and to explore the effects of wind on our environment

Discovering Wind

Materials: a balloon

Directions:

1. Ask for student contribution in defining the word *air*. Guide the students to conclude that air is an invisible mixture of gases surrounding the earth (and us).
2. Have the children observe a deflated balloon. Then blow it up but do not tie the end. Ask the class what the balloon is filled with. Help the children to understand that the balloon is now full of air, thus demonstrating that air now occupies the space within the balloon.
3. Release the balloon and observe what happens to the air. The pressure created by the balloon forces the contained air out, creating wind. Help the children to conclude that wind is moving air.

Creating Wind

Materials: squeeze bottles such as those from liquid dish detergent or shampoo, portable fan, hair dryer, bicycle tire pump

Directions:

1. Invite the children to contribute ideas on how they might create wind, such as by blowing or waving a hand or a paper.
2. Display an empty squeeze bottle. Ask how we might use this to make wind. Discuss how the bottle is filled with air (air takes up space, remember?). When we put pressure on this air by squeezing the bottle, the air inside moves out, creating wind.
3. Let the children squeeze the bottle onto their own or another child's hand to feel the wind. Ask if wind makes a sound.
4. Experiment with additional items that move air, such as a fan, hair dryer, or bicycle tire pump. Invite the children to feel the difference between a strong wind and a gentle breeze.

