



The Snow Queen

Sheet 5: Stage design - The world of the Snow Queen

"Where in winter the snow falls the most, she flies, the largest of them all, down the hill through the streets of the city. Sometimes, she looks through the window and then freezes the kids inside and they look like flowers." (Grandmother)

Stage design

Before "Die Schneekönigin" was shown in the theatre, a stage designer worked on set designs in consultation with the director. For this purpose, the stage designs are first drawn and then implemented in a small model.

The students receive the order to create a sketch for the Ice Palace of the Snow Queen and if necessary to implement it in a model.

With what materials can the Ice Palace of the Snow Queen be made?

Activity 1: Making icebergs from Styrofoam

The world of the Snow Queen made of ice and snow has to be artificially created for the set design. In addition to fireproof theatrical snow, large Styrofoam blocks can be cut, treated with fabrics and painted to make them look like real icebergs on the stage.

- Characteristic iceberg edges are cut out from the Styrofoam by hand, with the scissors or a cutter.
- Small pieces of paper are glued to the Styrofoam structure.
- The entire iceberg is then painted with shades of white and blue

Activity 2: Tinker snowflakes

"Look through the glass here ... Do you see how artful and flawless, how perfect and unspeakably beautiful these snowflakes are?" (Kay)

After Kay gets the splinter of the devil's mirror in the eye, he is completely changed. He no longer cares about his Gerda, her roses and the delicious cinnamon stars and grandmother's stories. He admires the snowflakes because they are so perfectly symmetrical, unique and artistic.

Excursus: How do snow crystals develop?



Snow crystals are formed when small water droplets freeze in the clouds at high altitude. In addition, the temperatures in the clouds must be between minus four and minus 20 degrees Celsius. By the time the snow crystal reaches the earth, it passes through various layers of air. Depending on the temperature and humidity, different basic forms are formed. The most common are crystals with many ramifications, which look like stars. They are considered by many to be the typical snow crystal. On their way to the earth, the basic shape of the snow stars changes continuously and differently depending on the temperature. This creates individual crystals that make each snowflake unique. Although the variety of shapes of the snow crystals is so great, they all have one thing in common: they are always hexagonal.

The special feature of snow crystals is their symmetrical shape, which can be viewed very well under a magnifying glass. This mathematical and seemingly perfect order fascinates Kay and symbolizes the world of the Snow Queen, which will be referred to in a subsequent exercise.

As an illustration, children can make their own snow crystals from paper:

- Draw a circle and cut it out.
- Fold the circle in the middle.
- Fold the semicircle into three equal thirds and place them on top of each other.
- Draw and cut a pattern along the two edges.

Tip for teachers: <http://www.instructables.com/id/How-to-Make-6-Pointed-Paper-Snowflakes/>

