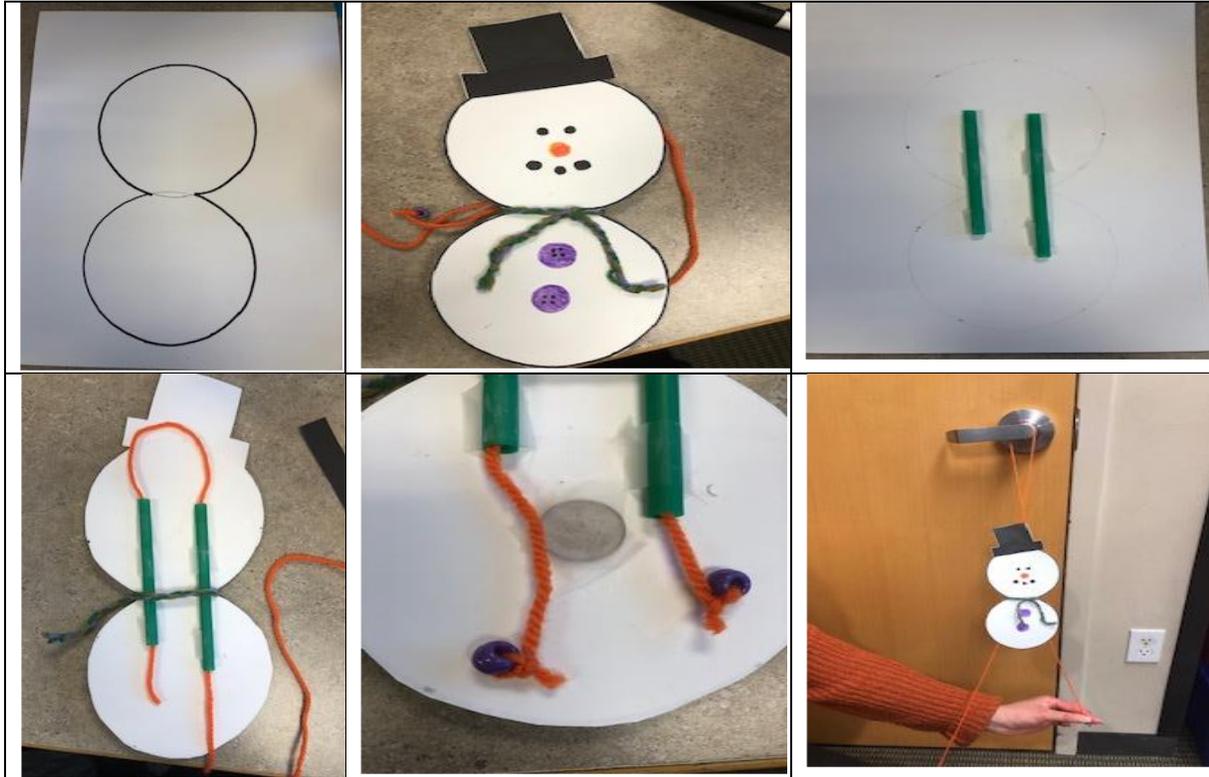


This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. It seems to be very frosty outside, but with very little snow. Maybe we can stay inside to build a snowperson and learn a bit about friction. Snowmen, as they are often referred to, have played an important role in many cultures all over the world. They are used as a means of expression and artistic talent, and also create community events that bring people together during very cold months. If there is snow, we will always have the opportunity to build another snowperson.



1-To make the snowperson, draw two or three circles on top of each other on white heavy paper or cardstock. You can trace the circles from round items you find around your house. Cut out the figure. Decorate the snowperson, as you like. Maybe your snowperson has a black top hat or a stocking cap. Add a face with eyes, nose, and mouth. You could give your snowperson some buttons or a scarf. So many possibilities!

2- On the back, tape down two pieces of a straw or small tube. Cut a string, about 4-5 ft. long. Thread it from the bottom of one straw, up to the top, and then down through the next straw. Both ends should be on the bottom. Tie beads or washers on the end of each straw, to prevent the string from disappearing up the straw. Hang the top loop of the string on a door-knob. Take one end of string in each hand and use a simple see-sawing motion to gently dance your snowperson to the top of the string. It may help to hold your hands slightly apart while gently see-sawing on the strings. The movement up the string is created by the friction between the straw and the string. Try taping the straws at different angles, to see if this affects how the snowperson travels. Tape a coin on the back, to see if weight changes the movement. Make a few different snow people and have a race with family or friends.

Remember-what goes up, must come down !

Ms. Susan