

Try This

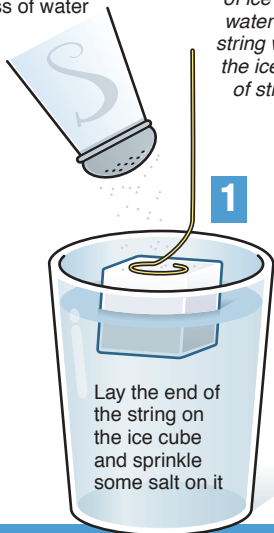
Fishing for an ice cube

You'll need

- 6 in. piece of thin string
- Ice cube
- Glass of water
- Salt

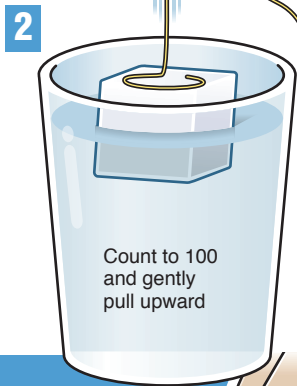
...98, 99, 100.

How do you lift a cube of ice from a glass of water with a piece of string without touching the ice or tying a loop of string around it?



Source: Bill Nye the Science Guy

Graphic: Paul Trap

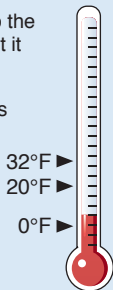


What happened?

The string sticks to the ice, and you can lift it from the water

First, the salt melts a bit of the ice

This is like spreading salt on an icy sidewalk



Pure water freezes at 32°F

Salt water freezes at a colder temperature, 20°F or less

Then, water from melted ice washes away the salt, and the water freezes again, trapping the string

