




# Delaware River Snow Globe

## Supplies:

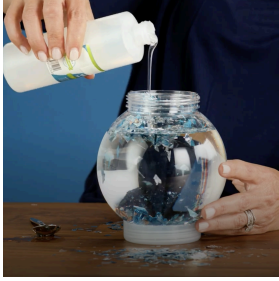
- Empty DIY plastic snow globe or jar with a lid
- Small American patriot figurine
- Cold water
- Blue & silver glitter
- Decorative rocks that look like ice
- Glycerin
- Spoon
- Hot glue gun and glue



## Steps:

	<p>Step 1: Unscrew the lid from the snow globe or jar and remove the plug. Glue down one rock that looks like ice on top of the plug.</p>
	<p>Step 2: Glue the American patriot figurine (George Washington) on top of the "ice" rock. Glue more "ice rocks" on the top of the plug around the figurine. Set aside to dry.</p>
	<p>Step 3: Fill the snow globe jar almost to the top with cold water. Add glitter and sequins to the water and stir with a spoon.</p>





Step 4: Add about two tablespoons of glycerin to the water and stir with a spoon.



Step 5: Insert the plug with the figurine and rocks into the jar of water, ensuring that it is sealed. Screw the lid on top of the plug.



Step 6: Shake up your snow globe and watch George Washington brave the storm!

### **Did George Washington really cross the Delaware River like he did in the famous painting?**

Yes! Emanuel Leutze's 1851 painting, "Washington Crossing the Delaware," is one of the most famous paintings in history. It shows George Washington (before he was president) poised in a boat navigating through the ice as he crossed the Delaware River with his troops on Christmas in 1776.

### **Fun Facts:**

- In the winter of 1776, after America declared independence from Britain, General Washington's Continental Army was struggling against the British, with only a few thousand men still willing to fight. Facing tens of thousands of British soldiers, Washington's small army retreated to Pennsylvania, west of the Delaware River, and decided to launch a daring attack on the Hessians in Trenton, New Jersey, with the code words "Victory or death!" — but first, he had to cross the icy Delaware River.
- On Christmas night, December 25, 1776, Washington led his soldiers, equipment, and horses across the icy Delaware River. They faced a severe winter storm with wind, rain, snow, hail, and sleet, with temperatures around 30 degrees, which is below freezing!

- The terrible storm delayed Washington's troops by three hours, risking exposure to enemy soldiers at dawn. Though he nearly canceled the mission, Washington knew a victory was crucial and decided to "push on at all events."
- After crossing the Delaware River, Washington's men marched 10 miles through the night to Trenton, where they attacked the Hessians shortly after 8 a.m., winning an easy victory. About a week later, they won another important battle at Princeton.
- Washington's two victories after crossing the Delaware are credited with saving the American Revolution, inspiring Americans to believe they could defeat the British. Without his leadership that Christmas Day, the fight for freedom might have collapsed, and the United States might never have existed.

### **Extension Activity**

After making their snow globes, gather the children in a circle and invite them to act out the story of Washington crossing the Delaware River.

- **Set the Scene:** Begin by explaining that their snow globes represent the cold, snowy night when Washington and his troops crossed the Delaware River. Discuss briefly the main events of the crossing, using simple language suitable for their age.
- **Roles and Props:** Assign roles like George Washington, soldiers, or the river itself. Use simple props like blue fabric for the river or paper hats for soldiers.
- **Interactive Storytelling:** Encourage the children to "cross the river" in their roles while you narrate the story. Emphasize the challenges they faced (like the cold and storm) and celebrate their determination and bravery.
- **Reflection Time:** After the reenactment, ask the kids to share what they felt while acting out the story. You can connect their feelings to the importance of courage and perseverance.