

How does dry ice make fog?



You might see a witch's pot that bubbles and pours out thick, white, spooky fog, rolling down onto the floor. That fog comes from something called dry ice. How does dry ice make fog?



Why?

1. Dry ice is not frozen water.

It's frozen carbon dioxide, the same gas you breathe out. When it warms up, it never makes a puddle. It skips the water part and turns straight into a gas. That's why it's called dry.

2. The gas is invisible.

You can't see carbon dioxide at all. So the white fog is not the gas. Then what is it?

3. The fog is millions of tiny water drops.

The air all around us is full of tiny water bits, too small to see. When the super cold gas touches them, they get cold fast and huddle together into tiny drops. Millions of tiny drops make a white cloud. That's the fog!

Try it! Freezer fog

You need: a freezer, a warm day and a grown-up

1. On a warm day, open the freezer door with a grown-up.
2. Watch closely.
3. Do you see a little white mist roll out and sink down?

What happened? Those are tiny water drops too! No dry ice needed.

Video + more questions:
whywhywhykids.com/dryice



scan with a grown-up