

Further investigation

There are several ways you could extend your investigation into avalanches. Start by thinking about what you want to investigate, then plan your experiment carefully. Make some notes on what you will do. In your notes, make sure you include information about how you will vary quantities, or what proportions you will have of different substances.

Decide on your own question to investigate, or try one of these sets of questions:

- What difference does the size of particle make?
 - What happens if we use a substance with a smaller/larger particle size?
 - How will the results compare with what we have found out so far?

- What difference does it make if you mix two or more substances?
 - Do you want two substances whose particle sizes are roughly the same, or two substances with different particle size?
 - Start by finding out what happens to the two substances on their own.
 - Then mix them in equal proportions and find out what happens.
 - Then vary the proportions of each.
 - How do the results compare with each other?

- What difference does it make if you add a little water to a substance?
 - Start by investigating the substance in its normal dry state.
 - Then add a small, measured amount of water and investigate it.
 - Gradually add more and more water, each time investigating what happens.
 - What difference does the water make?