

Account: South Carolina State Parks

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South Carolina State Parks

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LET IT SNOW! Are you hoping for some snow this winter? It's always "snowing" in our oceans but it's very different from the snow we see on land. The oceans experience "marine snow" or a shower of organic material that looks like white fluffy flakes. As the flakes fall from the surface to the ocean floor below, they grow in size. It could take weeks for them to sink to the bottom. The snow contains decaying plant and animal matter, dust, fecal matter, sand and soot. This organic mixture provides bottom dwelling creatures and deep sea animals with plentiful amounts of food vital for their survival.

