Nature's Density Column

Procedure/Data Table

1. Get one glass jar for your team
2. Measure 150mL of blue salty water using a graduated cylinder, and place it in the jar.
3. Get a green ice cube and **GENTLY** place it into the water in your jar
4. Observe over a period of 10 minutes, or until the ice cube melts
5. Record your observations in the data table below

Prediction: What do you think will happen to the ice cube in the salty water? Explain why- include a picture if this helps to explain your thinking.

Time (minutes)	**Observations (What is the ice doing? What is the saltwater doing? Include a picture of what you observe)**
0	
2	

4	
6	
8	
10	

Draw a picture of what your density column looks like:

Which is more dense- the freshwater from the ice **OR** the saltwater? Explain how you know this.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Nature's Density Column

Part Two

Where do you find density columns in nature?

How do density columns form in places like the Bering Sea/Arctic?

What are phytoplankton? Why do they need sunlight?

How does a density column help phytoplankton to bloom?

Why are phytoplankton SO important in places like the Bering Sea/Arctic?