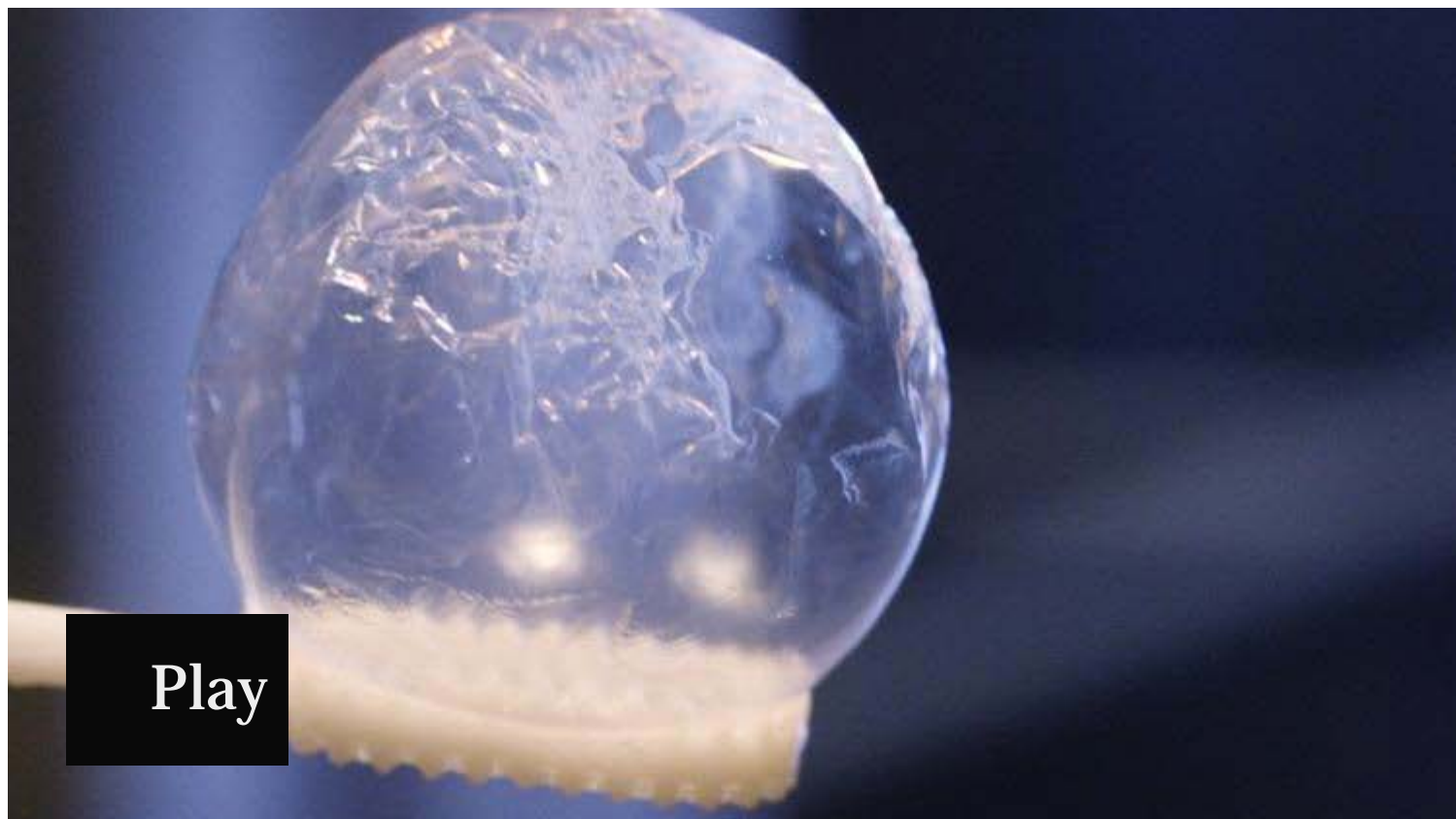
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Watch what happens when you blow bubbles in these super cold temperatures



By [Steve Annear](#) and [Matt Rocheleau](#)

GLOBE STAFF DECEMBER 29, 2017

When temperatures in Boston drop to single digits and wind chills fall well below zero, [some journalists](#) spend the day huddled safely inside their warm, cozy cubicles.

[Others](#) don't come into the office at all.

Not us.

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When we have an important question we need answers to — being the hard-nosed, intrepid reporters we are — nothing can stop us, not even extremely cold weather.

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And, boy, did we have a big-time question to investigate yesterday: What happens if you blow a bubble outside in these frigid temperatures?

(We mean the soapy, clear liquid that you played with as a kid, not the bubblegum kind.)

Search results on Google and videos on YouTube gave us an idea of what might happen to bubbles in freezing temperatures.

But these days, it's hard to tell what on the Internet is actually real and what's Russian propaganda or other fake news.

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We needed to try this for ourselves.

For hours Thursday, we scoured store after store around downtown Boston for bottles of bubbles, in

each case coming up empty. Perhaps it's because, as some shop workers told us, it's not exactly prime season for bubbles. Or, we thought, this city might just be in the midst of a massive bubble shortage. (That's an issue we'll have to dig into another day.)

Luckily, back at the office, a colleague unearthed two small containers of leftover bubbles from a recent wedding.

It was time to experiment.

With winds swirling in bone-chilling temperatures outside of our downtown offices, we bravely ran a series of rigorous tests, closely studying how the bubbles — or at least the few that weren't instantly swept away by the strong gusts — reacted to the cold.

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What we witnessed, we imagine, was some sort of mysterious phenomenon, inexplicable even for the world's top scientists.

The results were truly stunning. We were physically trembling, and we bet only some of that was because of the elements.

If Bill Belichick saw what we did, he might visibly react, slightly.

Watch the video above to see for yourself.

*(A special thanks to our editors for giving us time to work on this project, to the many people who are on vacation and not making other news this week, and most importantly to both the cold and the inventors of bubbles — we couldn't have done this without you.)*

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