

JANUARY 2024

Family Newsletter

January Book List

The Snowy Day
by Ezra Jack Keats

The Mitten
by Jan Brett

The Itsy Bitsy Snowman
by Jeffrey Burton

Snowmen at Night
by Caralyn Buehner

Curious About Snow
by Gina Shaw

We're Going on a Bear Hunt
by Michael Rosen

The Little Snowplow
by Lora Koehler

The Mitten Tree
by Candace Christiansen

Little Owl's Snow
by Divya Srinivasan

Ten Ways to Hear Snow
by Kenard Pak

The Biggest Snowman Ever
by Steven Kroll

Snow
by Cynthia Rylant

WELCOME 2024!

HAPPY 2024! We hope you had a wonderful holiday season! Every January, the new year is filled with messages of resolutions and goal setting. While young children may not understand the idea of a new year's resolutions, you can begin to build their confidence and motivation by setting good examples.

- **Encourage optimism.** Try to focus on possible solutions for a problem rather than dwelling on the problem itself.
- **Teach them grit.** Applaud their effort and help them understand that success doesn't always happen on the first attempt.
- Help them accept that **we all make mistakes!** That is how we learn. Accepting our mistakes is key to how we approach challenges in the future.
- **Celebrate their wins.** They've worked hard, let them know you see their success!
- **Give them a chance to succeed.** Kids need our love and support. Encourage them to pursue their interests.

To read more about encouraging self-motivation with your child, go to <https://bit.ly/JanTeachMotivation>

REMINDER!
We are closed on
Monday, January 15
in observance of
MLK Jr. Day

For Grins



How does a snowman get to work?



Early Learning Academies



BRINGING IT HOME



RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

Infant and Toddler

Snowball Balance

This activity is great for promoting fine motor coordination in little ones! To set up the Snowball Balance all you need is paper towel rolls and crumpled up white paper (or newspaper).

- Cut the paper towel rolls to a variety of lengths and then arrange them on the floor distanced from each other.
- Have your child help you crumple up the white paper or newspaper into balls and then practice balancing them on top of the paper towel rolls!
- The taller the rolls, the more difficult it will be. For added difficulty, you can use kitchen tongs to place the "snowballs"!



happytoddlerplaytime.com

Hot Chocolate Cloud Dough

This Hot Chocolate Cloud Dough smells like happy winter memories and is a lot of fun to shape and build with!

- Measure 8 cups of flour into a large container and mix in 2 to 4 cups of hot chocolate mix until it is the desired color. The more you add, the more it will look the color of hot chocolate!
- Add 1 ½ cups of vegetable oil and mix well with hands.
- Continue adding a ½ a cup at a time until the mixture is dry to the touch but sticks together if grabbed!



WholeChild.com

Preschool and School Age

Cardboard Snowmen

Don't have snow outside? No problem! To make Cardboard Snowmen are cardboard boxes you will need simple crafting supplies

- 3 boxes of assorted sizes, white paper - wrapping paper would work best, scissors, glue, paint, brushes, etc.
- Each piece will represent a different part of the snowman. Children may enjoy making different sets of snowmen (examples: different color schemes, assorted facial expressions, etc.) and then mixing and matching to see all the different snowmen they can make!

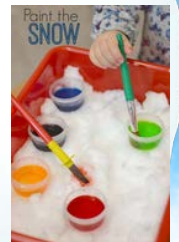


smartschoolhouse.com/holidays/cardboard-box-snowman

Painting Snow

For this activity, you will need a...

- Large bin, snow (ice will work if there is no snow on the ground), smaller containers, water, food coloring, brushes, and eyedroppers or basters.
- Mix up a different color of paint in each container by mixing water with food coloring and spread the snow (or ice) along the bottom of the large bin.
- Children will use brushes and basters or eyedroppers to paint the snow however they would like to and see how the colors mix and interact with the cold snow.
- When they are done, you may even want to print a piece of paper on the painted snow to get a print of their work!



growingajeweledrose.com/2012/01/warm-way-to-play-with-snow.html