

## FAMILY

# Fun Family Winter Activities

*Keeping the kids entertained during the winter months can be a challenge for any parent or grandparent. Here is a list of both inside and outside activities for all ages to do that will keep you busy for days to come!*

**Snow Painting** — Go outside and let the kids build snow sculptures. Then paint them with spray bottles filled with water and a little food coloring.

**Sledding/Tubing** — Bundle the kids up and take them sledding/tubing. Then, warm up with a cup of hot chocolate and freshly baked cookies (another activity!).

**Build a Fort** — Always a huge hit for kids of any age! Blankets, chairs, and couch cushions can all be used to build a great indoor fort.

**Bring Outdoor Toys Inside** — Clear a space for them in your basement, family room, or garage. Ride-on toys, jump ropes, soft or lightweight balls, and hula hoops. If you have a plastic slide that is usually outdoors, clean it off and bring it inside for a day or two.

**Home-improvement Project** — Older children and teens can help clean a closet, rearrange furniture, or repaint a room. This is also a great time to get going on some early spring cleaning!

**Read!** — Read aloud a classic children's book. Visit your local library and check out books.

**Take a Class** — Sign kids up for indoor sports and fitness programs through school, community center, or the local parks and rec department. Try tumbling, swimming, martial arts or skating. Some of these activities are great for the whole family to get involved in as well.

**Play a Card Game or Board Game** — Go Fish!, Old Maid, Skip-Bo, Uno, Monopoly, Operation, Connect Four, etc.

**Make Your Own Scavenger/Treasure Hunt** — This is fun for the whole family! Hide "treasure" throughout the house and either create a map or clues to get the hunters to their next destination.

**Make your own Pizza Movie Night** — Set up a topping buffet with sauce, cheeses and veggies and then each member of your family can make their own pizza. Find a great family movie and enjoy a nice evening at home snuggled up together!

**Make a Winter Scrap Book** — Take family pictures when making the activities listed above and create a scrap book for your winter memories. Involve the kids in the process of choosing the pictures and decorating the scrap book. You can also use their drawings and handicrafts to embellish the project.

■ by Beth Rye

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