Outdoor Program Ideas and Resources

Resources from the slides

What is Nature Deficit Disorder?
www.childrenandnature.org/resources/what-is-nature-deficit-disorder/

Library Corner: Outdoor recreation during a pandemic

5 Ways to Explore Nature in Winter
https://www.reginalibrary.ca/blog/rpl-blog/5-ways-explore-nature-winter

Check Out State Parks
https://cpw.state.co.us/librarybackpack
https://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/checkoutcostateparks

Iowa Libraries Adventure Pass Program
https://www.grimes.lib.ia.us/ilapp/

Library Snowshoeing Program Radio Spot
https://risevt.org/snowshoeing-vermont/

49 Fun Winter Activities You Can Still Enjoy (Even During a Pandemic)
https://www.realsimple.com/holidays-entertaining/entertaining/seasonal-events/winter-activities-during-covid

Small Business Scavenger Hunt

DeKalb library continues Family Fun Science outdoors

Turkey Plunge
https://www.nantucketatheneum.org/support/fundraising-events/turkey-plunge/

2020 light up Appleton & holiday window walk
https://appletondowntown.org/2020-light-up-appleton-and-window-walk/

Leadville Wintermission
https://www.880cities.org/portfolio_page/wintermission/leadville

Winter Activation Ideas for Main Streets & Neighborhoods During COVID19
https://benchconsulting.co/winter-places/
Other Ideas shared During the Session

- ‘The Valentine’s Day Phantom Project.’ Every year between midnight and dawn on Valentine’s Day, a mysterious groups of people put hearts on businesses in downtown Montpelier, the state’s capital
- Decorate a paper tree contest
- Holiday light displays
- Snow art
- Winter Storywalk
- Many libraries have backpacks with birding books, trail maps etc for checkout
- snowman building kit
- We have a great book called Forest Bathing
- Maybe take and makes with supplies for outdoor crafts?
- We often promote the best sledding hills on our facebook page!
- Books about gardening
- hiking trails/parks with programs
- I write a monthly "Book Corner" article for our local paper. I could do one on books related to getting out in nature during winter.
- books about snowboarding
- Our library recently discovered virtual displays for people who aren't open. We haven't done it yet, but here's an example of how it could look: https://view.genial.ly/5fa9a873fe435d74c2d2430e/interactive-image-hooverlib-among-us-book-display?fbclid=IwAR0Um57AvO7W1glC9SncfGVK2RQEi8mp3NVtcTv6jz6jUY1-Z1zu0EZiEo
- Snowshoe trail maps
- scavenger hunt for common animal tracks
- Check out snowshoes
• Football books
• wood burning stove tips
• running books
• I am putting several books on my storybook trail Sizing Up Winter and Winter Trees
• Audubon Christmas Bird count
• Winter Take and Makes
• We are doing outdoor movies.
• Gnome Hunt at multiple parks around the city.
• Free pass to the outdoor Science Park (Kaleideum).
• Storytime kits to be done anywhere, winter reading program with Bingo boards that include activities
• Tai Chi on the lawn (weather is too good in NC)
• Outdoor placemaking - [https://twitter.com/LetsMoveLibrary/status/1336732329729986567](https://twitter.com/LetsMoveLibrary/status/1336732329729986567)
• Reverse Escape Room: an outdoor scavenger hunt and clues to figure out so that you are allowed back into the library for cocoa and cookies
• In partnership with a local indigenous non-profit, we did a story stroll (changed it from StoryWalk, to make it more inclusive), about the indigenous history of water in Saint Paul. [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56db649a044262039484e013/t/5f28886d77f07477dc5f8c50/1596491892426/DakotaWaterways.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/56db649a044262039484e013/t/5f28886d77f07477dc5f8c50/1596491892426/DakotaWaterways.pdf)
• Christmas parade – with bookcart drill teams
• We do a "Freeze Fest" event at a lake -- and have partners come in for it. Snowshoeing, ice fishing, kick-sledding, etc. The libraries join us too with a Story Stroll and an art project. We had snow fort building there too.
• Outdoor holiday craft/gift fairs
• Neighborhood caroling
• wintertime public art project
• horticulture
• Therapy Activities
• Teacup planter craft project complete with mint plant
• Winter porch pail
• Twilight walks, candlelight walks, Trail Tales
• Ways to play in the rain
• movie night in the parking lot
• Yarn bombing could be fun for a downtown area.
• outdoor storytime and outdoor book groups.
• drive-in scary stories
• Could we have city street employees dump snow in our parking lots and make snowmen?
• Great Outdoors Colorado list of 100 Things to Do [outdoors] Before You’re 12: [https://www.generationwild.com/the-list](https://www.generationwild.com/the-list). You could adapt the list for winter in your community!

**Outdoor Program Partners**
- Local bike shop
- Local sporting goods store
- Social and support groups
- Nearby State Park
- Local Extension offices
- Chamber of commerce
- Historic Train station
- Golden Flower Tai Chi
- Kiwanis
  - We partner
- We partnered with a local coffee shop handing out decorated paper cups with a message from the library and the shop. It coincided with a program where a pianist from New York broadcast playing Holiday music.
- Community Garden.