

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

<https://www.skyhine.com/news/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

<https://www.salinecountylibrary.org/news/post/267/small-business-saturday-promotion-starts-november-21st>

DeKalb library continues Family Fun Science outdoors

<https://www.midweeknews.com/2020/11/04/dekalb-library-continues-family-fun-science-outdoors/aqaxupi/>

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/>

Canadian Public Health Recess

<https://www.cpha.ca/recess>

Cold Weather Recess Planning

<https://everactive.org/product/cold-weather-recess-planning/>

Learning to Embrace Cold Weather

<https://everactive.org/embracing-cold-weather/>

Move & Play Through Winter, Eh?

<http://benefitforlife.ca/resources/winter>

Winter Programs and Engagement Ideas

<https://nhlibraries.org/youthservices/2020/12/01/winter-programs-and-engagement-ideas-slides/>

Let's Move Libraries

<https://letsmovelibraries.org/about-us/newsletters/>

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=IwAR0Um57AvO7W1gIC9SncfGVK2RQEi8mp3NVTcTv6jzf6jUY1-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>
- 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>
- Obstacle courses - <https://www.webjunction.org/news/webjunction/sidewalk-obstacle-course.html>
- 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>. 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.