



# Snowy Day Play

Read One of Our Favorite Books, **The Snowy Day** by Ezra Jack Keats. If you don't have the book you can find a link to the story here:

▶ The Snowy Day Read-aloud, an animated story

Can you be like Peter?

**First, put on your snowsuit!** Parents, resist the urge to suit up the troops yourselves. Let your kids help. What goes on first? Boots? Nope! Grab those snow pants. What goes on second? What goes on third? Help when your kids need it, but let them try to do some on their own. The CHIPS teachers will thank you!

**Now you are ready to GO OUTSIDE!!!!**



**TAKE A WINTER WALK.** Look around and admire the snow. What color is it? Is it cold? Feel the snow under your feet. Does it make noise when you walk? Take big steps, take little steps. Walk with your feet pointing in. Walk with your feet pointing out. Walk on your tip toes. Jump forward in the snow. Drag your feet. Check out the snow after and see how different each footprint looks!

**SHAKE A STICK.** Look for a stick like Peter. Hit branches that are full of snow. What happens when you hit the branch?



**MAKE A SNOWMAN.** Start with a tiny snowball. Roll it in the snow and watch it grow bigger and bigger. Let your children do this part or do it together. When it is big, parents or big siblings, help stack the snowballs on top to make a snowman. How many big snowballs do you need? Count them. 1,2,3! Look around the yard for some things to make a face. Sticks, rocks, leaves all work well. Maybe you will even dig up an acorn under that nice, white, snow!



**MAKE A SNOW ANGEL.** Lie on your back in the snow. While you are there, take a minute to look up at the sky. Is it sunny? Is it cloudy? When you are ready, move your arms up and down and open and close your legs. Slowly, and carefully stand up. Look what you made. A snow angel! Lay down and do it again. Make a whole family of snow angels!

**PRETEND TO BE AN ANIMAL IN THE SNOW.** Bear walk through the snow. Creep on your hands and knees like a mountain cat. Find a hill to climb up and slide down.

**TIME TO HEAD INSIDE.** Practice taking off your snow clothes. Hang them up when you are done.

**NOW.....TIME FOR SOME HOT COCOA!**

## ***When you come inside: Enjoy Hot Chocolate!***

### **Following Directions, Answering Questions, and Vocabulary**

Follow a picture recipe for your child to help you make cocoa or hot chocolate (see sample below or draw your own!). Before you start, ‘read’ the recipe with your child and talk about what you will do first, next, and last. Ask your child questions about the recipe so you know they understand what they are seeing/hearing. Then, let your child do the steps in the recipe. Make sure you’re labeling the actions and objects involved. Here are some words you might say during this activity:

**Actions:** Pour, Dump, Stir, Mix, Put in (microwave), Push (buttons), Heat up, Drop (marshmallows), Whisk, Drink

**Objects:** Milk, Measuring Cup, Measuring Spoon, Spoon, Cocoa, Sugar, Vanilla, Whisk, Marshmallow, Microwave, Cup

After you are done, ask your child questions about the activity, such as “what did we do first/next/last?” and “what was your favorite part?” to work on recall, memory, and formulating sentences.

While you are drinking hot chocolate with your child, use describing words to talk about it. Here are some suggestions for talking about your hot chocolate:

- **Temperature:** Talk about how your hot chocolate feels. Is it hot or warm? Then, go touch something cold like a bottle from the fridge or an ice cube.

- Taste: Talk about how your hot chocolate tastes. Is it sweet or sour? Does it taste like chocolate?
- Smell: Does your hot chocolate smell like it tastes? Do you like the smell of hot chocolate?
- Sight: How does the hot chocolate look? What color is the hot chocolate? How about the marshmallows? What about the spoon and the cup? How does it look when you stir it with the spoon? Does it all spin around?
- Float or Sink: Talk about what's floating in your hot chocolate and what's sinking. Do marshmallows float or sink in the hot chocolate? What if you drop in a chocolate chip or piece of candy? Does the spoon sink?
- Textures: Compare the texture of a marshmallow before it goes into hot cocoa and after. Talk about how the marshmallow is squishy and chewy before you put it in the chocolate but after it is warm and gooey.



# ***Winter Friendship Scavenger Hunt***

**Social Skills, Asking questions, Listening**



This is a great group activity with neighbors, friends or family. Practice social skills by asking a question, listening to the answer, and making a comment about it, like “Me, too!”.

## Winter Friendship Scavenger Hunt



Find someone who has built a snowman.



Find someone who has gone sledding.



Find someone who likes hot chocolate.



Find someone who has a birthday in the winter.



Find someone who has a black winter jacket.



Find someone who has gloves with them today.



Find someone who likes to eat ice cream in the winter.



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*We hope you have fun!*

*Reach out with any questions.*

*Please tell us how your child enjoyed these winter activities,  
or even better share a photo with us! 📷*

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