



Winter Wonderland Nature Activities

Identify trees by their bark or tree buds using an identification guide such as iNaturalist.	Make bird feeder ornaments for the trees using nut butter and seeds, or hang a window feeder.	Watch the bird feeders and identify the birds that are coming to feed using audubon.org/bird-guide .	What birds do you not see at the feeder? Have these migrated for the winter?	Scatter a variety of nuts and seeds. Which birds eat each type of nut or seed?	Create a sledding path and adjust the course to go faster or slower.
Make a frozen sun catcher by freezing a 1/2 inch layer of water in a round pan, using items from nature.	Sit outside for 15 minutes. What do you hear, see, smell, feel, or even taste?	Write a poem based on what you observed sitting outside.	Track what time the sun is rising and setting. What do you notice? What do you wonder?	Take a drive by some open fields at dusk. How many deer and other wildlife are out?	Go sledding, ice skating, tubing, skiing, or snow shoeing.
Look for animal tracks in the snow or mud and identify them using almanac.com/content/animal-track-identification	Play ice hockey with a stick and rock on a frozen patch of ice.	Measure and graph the snow every hour as it accumulates.	Measure and graph the snow as it melts, along with the rising temperature.	Make maple syrup taffy in the snow using a popsicle stick and maple syrup.	Go for a walk or hike you have been on in the warmer months. What differences do you see?
Go on a nature scavenger hunt. Can you find: winter berries, signs of an animal, a feather, an icicle, a nest, a cardinal, or a robin?	As it snows, look closely at the snowflakes and observe the patterns. Read "Snowflake Bentley" and learn about his discovery.	Freeze disposable bread pans with colored water and make a snow fort.	Have a snowball fight or play baseball with snowballs. What makes a good snowball? Read "The Story of Snow" to find out!	Observe a pond or creek up close. Is it frozen? What life can you see moving below the surface?	Paint in the snow using colored water and a paint brush or spray bottle.
Make snow ice cream using 1-gallon clean snow, 1 cup white sugar, and 1 tbsp. vanilla, 2 cups milk.	Bundle up in all your layers, go outside, & pretend to be a polar bear using their blubber to keep warm.	Go out in the cold without your layers. How do polar bears adapt to the environment?	Go geocaching by following coordinates to discover hidden treasures using the Geocaching app.	In below freezing temps, blow a bubble using 1 cup water, 1 tbsp., corn syrup, 2 tbsp. sugar, 2 tbsp. glycerin, 3 tbsp. dish soap.	Visit a local state park or national park.