

Winter is Here!



We Love Snow....Until We Don't!

The first snow of the season is always exciting and a bit magical, covering our everyday world in a clean, bright blanket. Playing outside means kids stomping in snow piles, making (and throwing) snowballs, and tasting the icy stuff....until we realize that their feet are wet through their shoes and their mittens and soaked and frozen. No more outside snow play today!

Students can have fun playing with snow while *indoors* with this simple *Pretend Snow* recipe:

What You'll Need:

Baking Soda



Dry Ingredient Measuring Cups



Corn Starch



Water



Measuring Spoons



Mixing Bowl



- Add one cup of baking soda + one cup of corn starch to a mixing bowl.
- Add water to the dry ingredients, a few tablespoons at a time. You only want enough water to allow the dry ingredients to stick together.

If you find the “snow” is too dense – not fluffy – add equal parts baking soda and corn starch to the mixture to achieve the right consistency.

The feel of this sensory material is very smooth and light, encouraging children to dive wrist-deep into play! Because it is so light it can get messy! You may want to buy a shower curtain at the Dollar Store and stretch it across the table or floor. Let children explore the snow material with their hands, cookie cutters, and other tools. When they're finished playing, just fold all the edges of the shower curtain in towards the middle and pour the snow into a container to use again another day.





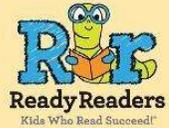
**MISSOURI
HISTORY
MUSEUM**

MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ATTN:

**Preschool Teachers
with**

**READY READERS
in Their Classroom**



You are invited to take a FREE field trip to the Missouri History Museum! During the visit, Ready Readers will provide all children and their teachers with a new book related to the field trip's theme.

Programs are available beginning in August 2018 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays as early as 9:30am and on Tuesdays and Fridays as early as 11:30am. These 90-minute sessions can accommodate groups of up to 40 children. We require 1 adult chaperone for every 6 children, and we encourage adults to actively engage with children as they play and learn.

Choose from one of the following field-trip themes:

- 1 Our City, Our Story
- 2 Community Superheroes
- 3 From Here to There: Transportation
- 4 Color Explosion
- 5 I Spot Shapes
- 6 Steaming through the History Clubhouse (max class size is 24)

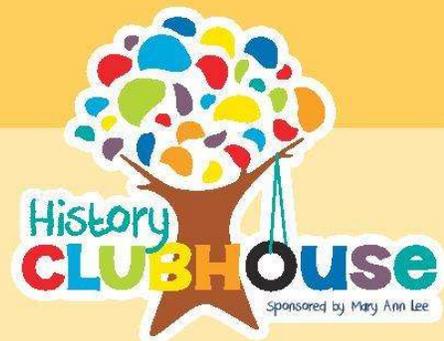


Programs are led by museum educators and take place in the Missouri History Museum's galleries. Each program lasts 90 minutes and includes the following components:

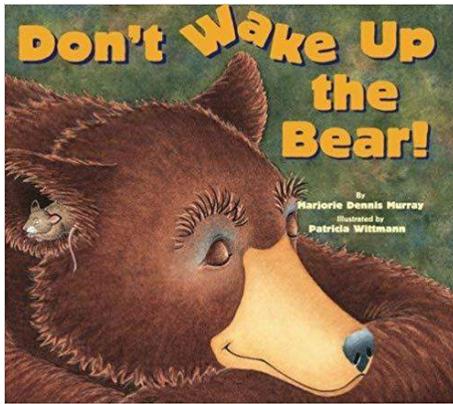
- 1 **Interactive story time:** A museum educator will engage children through high-quality thematic storybooks.
- 2 **Craft project:** Children will make their own simple craft projects that align with the program theme.
- 3 **Facilitated gallery exploration:** With the guidance of a museum educator, children will explore a gallery, applying their knowledge about the topic. This activity fosters close observation skills and learning about St. Louis's past.
- 4 **Counting exercises:** Children will be encouraged to practice counting together during story and exploration time.
- 5 **Movement:** In order to engage kinesthetic learners, museum educators will incorporate hand motions during story time and full-body movements during gallery exploration.
- 6 **Music:** During story time, children will be invited to learn a song and/or hear music related to the theme.
- 7 **Learning through play:** Before or after their facilitated story time, children will have self-directed play time in the History Clubhouse (mohistory.org/history-clubhouse), a gallery especially designed for kids to learn about St. Louis History. Kids can dress up in costumes, put on a puppet show, fish over the edge of a canoe, pull a steamboat whistle, and more!

All group visits must be arranged in advance, and the sooner the better, because our programs are popular and book up fast! Visit mohistory.org/earlychildhood to make your reservation today! You may also call 314.361.9017 for assistance. Please contact lnewton@mohistory.org or 314.454.3114 for further information regarding the curriculum.

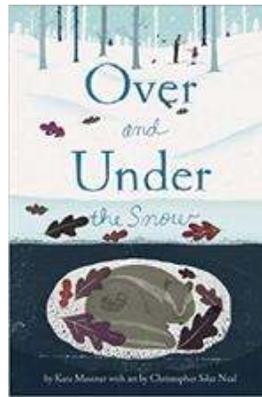
Lindell and DeBaliviere in Forest Park
314.746.4599 • mohistory.org



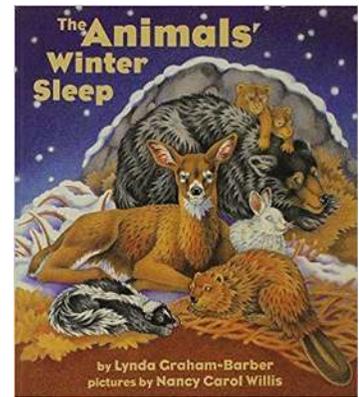
MORE GREAT BOOKS FOR WINTER THEMES



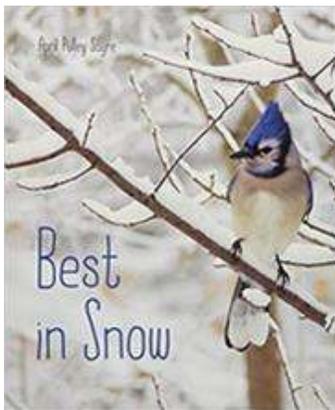
Don't Wake Up the Bear!
by Marjorie Dennis Murray



Over and Under the Snow
by Kate Messner



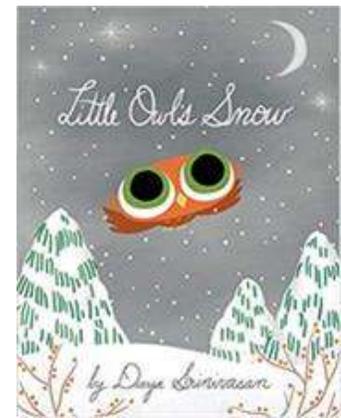
The Animals' Winter Sleep
by Lynda Graham-Barber



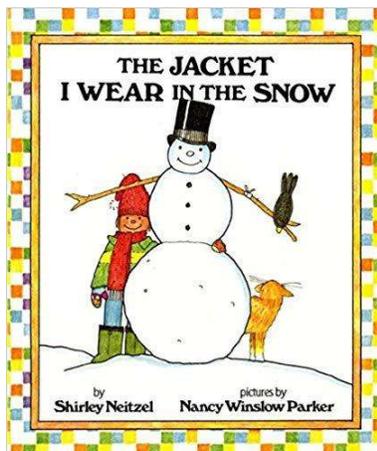
Best in Snow
by April Pulley Sayre



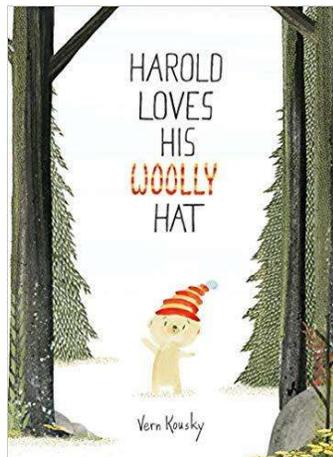
First Snow
by Bomi Park



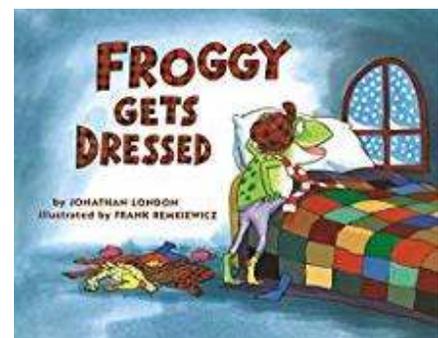
Little Owl's Snow
by Divya Srinivasan



The Jacket I Wear In the Snow
by Shirley Neitzel



Harold Loves His Woolly Hat
by Vern Kousky



Froggy Gets Dressed
by Jonathan London

Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers



Ready Readers offers state-approved clock hour workshops for teachers and administrators.

Workshops include:

“Full STEAM Ahead! Children’s Literature and Activities Across the Curriculum” (3 hours)

“Helping Children Learn: Reducing the Effects of Trauma and Toxic Stress
by Developing Emotional Literacy” (3 hours)

“Movement, Music & Imagination: Storytime FUN!” (2 hours)

Workshops take place at the Ready Readers office OR at your school/center,
and can be scheduled after school hours or on Saturdays.
Price is \$15 per teacher; stipends available upon request.

Call me to set up a time and date to share creative ideas that use children’s books to
bring learning to life in your classroom!

Sheila Oliveri, Ready Readers Literacy & Curriculum Coordinator
sheila@readyreaders.org ♦ (314) 564-8070, ext. 3



I’d LOVE to hear from YOU!
Please share your stories, teaching ideas, and
photos of your class enjoying learning and books!
I’ll post your thoughts and pictures in the next
Teacher Newsletter.

Together we can make teaching and learning
more **fun!**

Contact me: sheila@readyreaders.org

