

11 WINTER CRAFTS FOR KIDS + OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES



11 Winter Crafts for Kids + Outdoor Activities

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Letter from the Editor

Hello, Frosty Families,

Sometimes it's easy to forget all the reasons to love winter. When fall ends, you're suddenly faced with slick roads, a biting chill in the air, or the threat of a snowstorm. However, your children don't view winter as a hindrance. They see possibilities of decorating the yard with snow angels, having a snowball fight, or building a snowman. Your kids of all ages will just see the possibility for a lot of fun when they look outside the window and see a winter wonderland, so ignite their curiosity with these fun winter crafts for kids.

In this eBook, the possibility of fun is turned into a guarantee, and you won't be able to help loving winter weather. This compilation of winter crafts and activities will engage your entire family in frosty fun. From art projects to new ways to play outside in the snow, your children find themselves enchanted with the winter wonderland outside their door. Bundle up; you're about to be blown away by these creative, wintry craft projects!

You can find even more craft projects, games, and activity ideas at www.AllFreeKidsCrafts.com.

Our eBooks, like all our kids' craft projects, are absolutely FREE to members of our kids' crafts community. Please feel free to share with family and friends and ask them to sign up at our website for our [free e-mail newsletter](#).

Happy crafting!

Emily

Editor of AllFreeKidsCrafts
www.AllFreeKidsCrafts.com

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Outdoor Activities

Ice Balloon Lanterns

By: [Gina from Willowday](#)

[Ice Balloon Lanterns](#) are gorgeous outdoor decorative kids' crafts that look so complex but are very simple to make. Your kids will have so much fun making this ice craft. If the kids suddenly have a snow day, then this is the perfect winter craft for you and your family. You probably have balloons in a drawer or a closet somewhere, so you can easily do this at the last minute. These lovely homemade winter crafts for kids are so "cool" kids will want to make as many as possible for homemade Christmas decorations and more!



Materials:

- Latex balloons
- Water
- Winter weather

Instructions:

1. Find your latex balloons and water source. Set up your work area.
2. Use a garden hose or water faucet and carefully slip the lip of the balloon over the hose head. Keep pressure applied to the balloon lip to avoid leaking water.
3. Fill balloons until desired size. Tie well.
4. Place outdoors or in freezer. Be attentive to how you place your balloons, as this will be their final shape.
5. If you're using your freezer, allow balloons to freeze for about 4 hours. You don't want them frozen solid, but you do want them to hold their shape. If your balloons are freezing outdoors, the time will vary based on the air temperature.
6. Once your balloons feel about 80% frozen, clip off the top of the balloon, turn it up-side-down and drain water. Peel away the rest of the balloon.
7. Place a tea light candle inside the lantern. Enjoy!

Beautiful Ice Door Hanger

By: [Gina from Willowday](#)

A [Beautiful Ice Door Hanger](#) is one of the most perfect winter crafts for kids. They'll have a blast gathering the sticks and pine cones. Let them loose outside in the yard or in your neighborhood park. Teach them about nature and the various states of water. Projects for kids that can serve as a teaching moment and be fun at the same time are definite winners. There's no mess to clean up when the weather warms up because your project will just melt, and you can make a new one next year.



Materials:

- Branches, pine cones, pine needles
- Wide ribbon
- Circular pan (pie tins work well)
- Water

Instructions:

1. Gather the branches and other items you want to use in your door hanger.
2. Arrange branches in a tin or container as evenly as possible. Don't overload your tin with items; you want to be able to see the ice.
3. Cut your ribbon and make a loop. Leave a generous amount of the ribbon end in the tray. You could also bring the ribbon all the way through the pan and leave the bottom fringes hanging outside of the pan.
4. Fill pan with water. Two inches of water or less is ideal.
5. Carefully place arrangement in freezer with attention to the ribbon looped on top. Freeze. Once frozen solid, hang it outside!

Rainbow Cubed Ice

By: [Jill from Meet the Dubiens](#)

[Rainbow Cubed Ice](#) is an incredibly easy winter craft for kids. Once the colorful ice is frozen, you can play outside sorting and stacking the pretty blocks. An extra bonus with this fun activity is that as long as the cubes are clean, they can serve as edible crafts. Put them in your drink to make an awesome colored beverage. There is no clean up required with this craft because the ice will just melt away and leave you with a rainbow of color.



Materials:

- Ice Cube Trays
- Bowls
- Water
- Food coloring

Instructions:

1. Pour your water into your ice cube trays.
2. Add food coloring into each cube and stir – you'll want to make lots of different colors for more fun for your kiddos.
3. Put the trays in the freezer and allow to freeze completely.
4. When frozen, pop them out into a bowl and bring them outside for stacking!

Holly and Ivy Ice Lanterns

By: [Candace from Naturally Educational](#)

[Holly and Ivy Ice Lanterns](#) are elegant and gorgeous decorative winter crafts for kids. On a chilly winter night, kids can fill up buckets and make an easy frozen lantern featuring lovely holly leaves. If you're a little short on the natural materials you need, you can always pick up faux branches and berries from the craft store to make these stunning lanterns. These Holly and Ivy Ice Lanterns are great for Christmas, but you'll love using them for as long as winter lasts.



Materials:

- One large plastic container or bucket
- One smaller plastic container (a plastic cup would work)
- Water
- One tea light
- Twigs, berries, evergreen boughs

Instructions:

1. Gather twigs, berries, and evergreen boughs and place in a bucket filled 3/4 with water.
2. Weigh down the smaller container with rocks until it sinks but does not fully submerge in the larger container.
3. Leave the container out overnight in freezing weather or place in the freezer. Once it is frozen solid, pour hot water around the outside of the larger container to loosen the ice. Pour water into the smaller container to remove.
4. Wait for nightfall and light and insert the tea candle.

Indoor Activities

Snowflakin' Cute Canvas Art

By: [Michelle from Sunshine and a Summer Breeze](#)

Everything about this craft gives you a warm, fuzzy feeling because it's [Snowflakin' Cute](#). It shimmers and shines with the beautiful glitter, and even the littlest artists can make this flurrying canvas. Use tape to help the tiny painters stay in the lines, and you'll have a work of art that is gallery worthy. Even though winter brings cold, this adorable winter craft for kids will make your heart warm. You will love seeing your perfect snowflake emerge as you clear away the tape.



Materials:

- Acrylic paints: white, a dark blue, and a medium blue
- Paint brush
- Tape
- Canvas
- Glitter
- Modge Podge

Instructions:

1. Place your canvas on newspaper. Tape out your snowflake on your canvas.

2. Paint over your snowflake design. You can mix your paint colors together for the ultimate snowy effect.



3. Once the paint is completely dry, peel off the tape. If needed, use white paint to clean up the lines of your snowflake and let it dry.
4. Grab your Modge Podge and some glitter. Paint the Modge Podge to the white area of the snowflake only, and then sprinkle on the glitter.



5. Gently shake your canvas so the excess glitter falls onto the newspaper.
6. Let your canvas dry completely, and then you're done!

Teensy Weensy Snowman Pal

By: [Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda](#)

This winter, make the coolest snowman kids' craft and be able to show anyone you want. Your new pocket-sized pal will go everywhere you do. The [Teensy Weensy Snowman Pal](#) is the best friend a kid could ask for because it wants to do what you want to do. Take it down a slide, play hide-and-go-seek, eat s'mores, or craft together. This extremely easy project from Amanda Formaro is so affordable that you can make a whole group of pom pom buds. Tell each one apart by giving them different colored scarves, noses, and maybe even shoes!

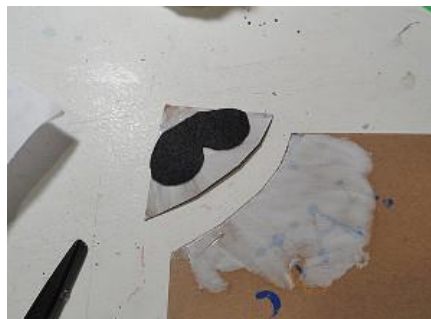


Materials:

- 1 jumbo white pom pom
- 1 medium orange pom pom
- 2 miniature black pom poms
- Black and green felt
- Thin cardboard (snack box, back of a note pad, etc)
- White craft glue

Instructions:

1. Cut "feet" from black felt. Cut a heart shape, then trim off the bottom of the heart, leaving the humps.
2. Glue the "feet" to cardboard then trim the visible cardboard.



3. Glue the jumbo white pom pom to the feet. Glue the orange pom pom to the white pom pom for the nose and the black pom poms for the eyes.
4. Cut a scarf from green felt and fringe the end. Glue in between the white pom pom and the feet.



Click here to download our FREE eBook: *Cheap and Easy Crafts for Kids: 9 Recycled Crafts!*

Cuddly Cotton Ball Snowman

By: [Rebecca from Simple as That](#)

As the weather cools outside, build a warm snowman craft for kids inside. The [Cuddly Cotton Ball Snowman](#) is one of the greatest preschool winter crafts this year. If the wind is howling outside, your kids can still have fun with an indoor winter craft. This "snow" is easy to work with, and you don't have to wear mittens. Add a vintage feel by using old book pages for Frosty's accessories. Let it snow as much as it wants outside. You will be inside cozily crafting your new snowman pal with your kids.



Materials:

- Cotton balls
- Construction paper
- Recycled book pages (optional)
- White cardstock
- Glue stick

Instructions:

1. Draw your snowman's body on the white cardstock and cut it out.
2. Cut a large construction paper triangle for the nose, and black dots for the eyes and mouth. Glue these shapes onto the head of the snowman.
3. Grab your glue stick and liberally cover the snowman's body with glue.
4. Stick on lots of cotton balls!
5. Cut out arms and accessories from the recycled book pages (or other paper) and glue them onto your snowman.

Snowflakey Candle Holder

By: [Erica from Confessions of a Homeschooler](#)

Let it snow on your table. Bring the beauty of snow indoors with the [Snowflakey Candle Holder](#). Winter activities for kids are wonderful to have on hand since you have to spend so much time cooped up in your home. This easy craft is the perfect boredom buster for those long, cold winter days. Use this technique to decorate jars, cans, and more, and your whole house will look like a winter wonderland. You and your children can create beautiful centerpieces and other table decorations to use all winter long.



Materials:

- Glass votive candle holder (empty baby food jars also work well!)
- Mod Podge Glossy
- Paint Brush
- Fake snow flakes from a local craft store
- Paper plate to catch excess flakes

Instructions:

1. Place a handful of the fake snow onto your paper plate and set aside.
2. Generously coat the outside of your glass votive holder with the Mod Podge.
3. Carefully roll the covered votive holder in the snowflakes on your plate and shake off excess.
4. Add a votive candle to your holder and enjoy your sparkly, wintery candle!

Egg Carton Snowy Mountains

By: [Janiene from A Bunch of Bishops](#)

Experience the great outdoors without leaving your home when you make these awesome recycled crafts for kids. The [Egg Carton Snowy Mountains](#) are affordable kids' winter crafts that you can make if you're stuck inside on a chilly day. Toddlers and preschoolers will love these recycled craft ideas, too. This egg carton craft works up really quickly, so you can have tons of snowy fun in no time at all. Plus, you probably already have all the materials you'll need! This is the perfect last minute snow day craft to bring out when you're surprised by a blizzard.



Materials:

- Cardboard egg cartons
- Scissors
- Brown craft paint (tempura or washable)
- White craft paint (tempura or washable)
- Paint brushes
- Tacky glue
- Snippets of fake pine greenery

Instructions:

1. Paint your cardboard egg cartons brown.
2. Then, water down the white paint slightly and dab the brush on the mountain tops.
3. Put Tacky glue in the crevices of the egg carton and stick the snippets of greenery in them to create the 'forests' of your mountains.
4. Let it dry, and you're done!

Dress-Up Felt Snowman

By: [Amanda Formaro from Crafts by Amanda](#)

You get to change clothes every day, so why shouldn't your snowman? Have a blast with your [Dress-Up Felt Snowman](#), one of the amazing activities for toddlers and up that you can make. If your snowman is feeling blue, dress him in a nice bright scarf with cozy mittens to brighten his day. If it's a little warm outside, you don't want him melting, so take off his scarf and let him enjoy the sun. With this creative craft, you can even match your snowman by making him accessories that look like yours!



Materials:

- 8x10 cardboard (back of a writing pad works great)
- Felt: light blue, white, green, and various other colors
- Black and pink Sharpies
- White craft glue

Instructions:

1. Cover the cardboard with white craft glue, and spread it into an even layer using your finger. Be sure that all of the cardboard is covered.
2. Cover a little more than half of the cardboard with light blue felt for the sky. Cover the bottom section with white felt, overlapping the blue by about 1/2". Do not glue down the overlap.

3. Cut out two sections of triangle trees from green felt. These can be inserted into the white felt "pocket" that overlaps the blue felt. This way the trees can be moved and your snowman can be repositioned. Cut out clouds from white.



4. Cut out snowman shape from white felt, cut another, and glue them together. This will make your snowman a bit sturdier.



5. Cut noses from orange felt, stick arms from brown felt, and accessories from various colors. You can make a top hat, stocking cap, ear muffs, scarves, mittens (not shown), a bow tie, and buttons.



6. Draw facial features on with black and pink Sharpies. *Hint: place a hat and scarf before drawing to be sure you have enough room.*



7. Kids will be able to make various snowmen by dressing them in different accessories!

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Polar Bear Bath Puppets

By: [Abby from Things for Boys](#)

This kids' animal craft is sure to be a hit at bath time. The [Polar Bear Bath Puppet](#) is an easy sewing project for kids to make, and it takes less time than you might think. You can use old towels or bathrobes for this simple sewing project. This kids' sewing project is both adorable and practical; this homemade bath puppet is a washcloth and a toy all in one! You'll have oceans of fun with the Polar Bear Bath Puppet, both in and out of the tub. Your kids will absolutely love their new bath toy!



Materials:

- 2 pieces of towelling about 15 x 25 cm (6 x 10 inches)
- Scrap of black fabric or felt for the nose
- Glue or thread to attach nose
- Fabric paint or thread to make eyes and mouth
- Sewing supplies

Instructions:

1. Cut out 2 pieces for the body, using your hand as a guide for the size. 15 x 25 cm (6 x 10 inches) should be fine.



2. Round off the tops of the pieces and cut 2 little semi circles for the ears.



3. Using your black fabric, cut a triangle for the nose, and round off the sides a bit. If you want to stitch the face on, do it now. If you're gluing, you'll save the face for last.
4. Put the body pieces together and sandwich the ears in the middle, with the bottoms (flat edges) pointing out. *Note:* If you've sewn the face onto the puppet, you need to make sure the face is covered by a towel piece so that it will be right side out when you reach step 6.
5. Sew the edges of the puppet. A wide zig-zag stitch works well if you're sewing by hand. You can use a sewing machine if you have one.
6. Turn the puppet inside out. If you want, you can sew the bottom of the puppet for a finished edge.
7. If you chose to draw the polar bear's face, glue on the nose with some fabric glue and draw on the eyes and mouth with fabric paint.



Special Thanks



Thank you to everyone included in this eBook:

[Willowday](#)

[Simple as That](#)

[Crafts by Amanda](#)

[Confessions of a Homeschooler](#)

[Things for Boys](#)

[Meet the Dubiens](#)

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Featured in this eBook:

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