



Winter has fully set in, and that means you may be searching for new, affordable ways to spend quality time with your family. We've got tons of ideas for fun family activities, that'll get you thinking creatively about how to wile away the winter weather hours together!

Fun, Inexpensive Outdoor Family Activities



Photocredit: Flickr / andrechinn









If you live in a colder region and your family doesn't mind getting out in the brisk weather, consider these fun outdoor options for family time.

Build a snowperson or snow fort: For the snow person, upcycle food scraps, twigs from your backyard, old clothes, and other items to really dress it up. Or do some research online to find out the best techniques for making a solid fort out of snow blocks!

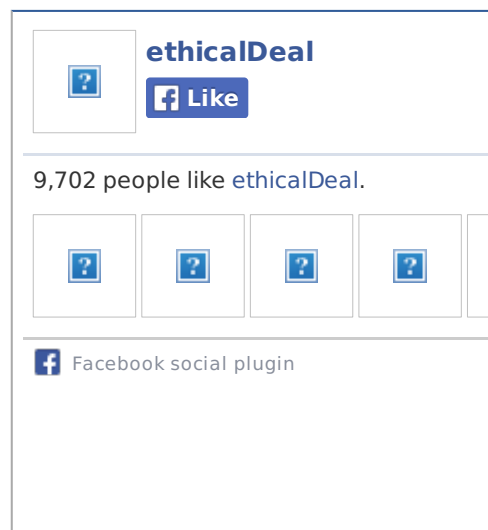
Go sledding, skating, or skiing: Stick close to home to minimize your fuel emissions and costs. If you need new equipment, see if you can buy something secondhand.

Learn photography: Winterscapes are some of the most spectacular sights

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you'll find in nature. Get some photography books from your library, and head out as a family to learn how to take great pictures of hoar frost, icicles, and monstrous snow drifts.

Visit museums and science centres: While not technically outside, you'll need to brave the cold to get to these destinations. Winter is a perfect time to do these indoor activities while getting to know your own city! Often these venues are very inexpensive or free, while being super educational!

Creative Indoor Family Activities



Photocredit: Flickr / grace_kat

Of course, there are plenty of us who dislike the cold weather, and if you're one of them, we've got ideas for you, too!

Play board games or read books: Take out books from the library or buy games from the local thrift store. Cozy up together with blankets and some fair trade, organic hot chocolate.

Discover yoga together: Today there are plenty of family-oriented yoga practices, many of which are available from your local library or through online resources. It's a fabulous way to help your kids stay active sustainably when it's chilly outside.

Do upcycling crafts: Teach your kids the value of reusing resources with fun crafts that upcycle household items you no longer need.

Put on a play: If you've got drama queens and kings in your family, why not find an easy script online and put on a show for one another?

Cook together: This is a great way to teach your kids about the origins of food and how to develop a nutritious lifestyle. Take this opportunity to instil lessons on food choices and the joys of cooking from scratch!

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About the Author:

Maryruth has been seeking the keys to environmental justice—both at home and at work—for over a decade. Growing up adjacent to wild spaces, Maryruth developed a healthy respect (and whimsical appreciation) for things non-human, but her practical mind constantly draws her down to earth to ponder tangible solutions to complex eco-problems. With interests that range from green living to green business, sustainable building designs to organic gardening practices, ecosystem restoration to environmental health, Maryruth has been exploring and writing about earth-matters for most of her life. Of special interest is the subject of ecopsychology and the role the natural world plays in the long-term health and well-being of humanity. You can learn more about Maryruth's work by [visiting her site](#).

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