

Chat, Play, Share

What shall we do when the snow falls thickly?

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When it snows in winter.

This song can be sung to the tune “What will we do with a drunken sailor?”

Additional verses:

Put our hats and coats and boots on X3. When it snows in winter.

Rush outside and build a snowman X3. When it snows in winter.

Stomp in the snow and leave big footprints X3. When it snows in winter.

Lie in the snow and make snow angels X3. When it snows in winter.

What shall we do when the snow falls thickly? X3. Run outside and play.

Younger children

This song has a jolly tune. Gently bounce your child along on your knee in time with the rhythm then tickle them when you sing ‘When it snows in winter’.

Older children

This would be a great song to sing together on a snowy day inside, or how about singing outside as you play in the snow? See if your child can suggest actions for the different verses? If you have snow, wrap up warm and make footprints in the snow or your own snow angels.



Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a story together set in winter and chat about the pictures and story.

Examples of stories:

- One snowy night by Nick Butterworth
- The Gruffalo's child by Julia Donaldson
- A dot in the snow by Corrinne Averiss
- Betty and the yeti by Ella Burfoot
- Snow bears by Martin Waddell
- Snowball by Sue Hendra
- Elmer in the snow by David McKee

There is a selection of winter activities for families to try, available for free from the Woodland Trust. Why not try something new together:

<https://treetoolsforschools.org.uk/activitymenu/?cat=winter>

Keeping warm in winter

The song talks about dressing up warmly to go out in the snow. Chat to your child about the different clothes we might wear in winter and what we would wear in summer. You could sort out a pile of clothes by season or pack a bag together for a winter outing. Encourage your child to have a go at getting themselves ready when they go outside.

Exploring freezing and melting

If the weather gets cold enough, exploring ice can be fun (or you could use a freezer). Fill different size/ shape containers with water and leave them out overnight. The next day tip the blocks out and explore them together. Encourage your child to describe what they look and feel like. Share any words you can think of to, as this is a great way of increasing your child's vocabulary. Take one of the ice blocks inside and put it on a tray, talk to your child about what is happening as it melts. Keep checking your outside ice blocks and see how long they take to melt.



How about freezing small toys in ice for your child to find as it melts?



If you add string and natural materials to the pots before freezing, they can be hung up like mobiles.



If it snows, make snow models and see

how long they take to melt. Encourage your child to predict what will happen.