

What to do During February Vacation

Winter Activities to Keep Your Children on the Go!

School vacation creeps up on us. If you do not pay attention it is knocking at your door! Here are some suggestions and ideas for fun activities to do with your children so nobody goes stir crazy over vacation week!

Child Care Center

Some parents have to work and are not sure what to do with their children when school is out for a break. Parents can look into an after school program where children are challenged all day through activities and field trips. There are staff that are trained to keep your child occupied and in a safe environment. For information about school vacation programs at The Children's Workshop please visit our website www.childrensworkshop.com and call the center nearest you! We have fun activities planned to keep your children engaged all week long!

Home

If you are a parent who will be home during school break chances are you are working on some activities and distractions to minimize boredom. Here are some tips to keep the younger children as well as older children busy.

There are many places that you can take your child (children) either for free or minimal money.

Museums are a great place to take your child especially if this is something you don't normally do. Exploring an art museum or a science museum can keep your child's mind in learning mode even though school is out and they are having fun. Other fun ideas include taking a tour of a historical site or stadium, going to see a live performance, or trying something you have never done before like ice skating or roller skating with your children.

Free Activities

Some free things that you can do include going on a hike outdoors - make it a scavenger hunt! Look for foot prints in the snow, birds, and other exciting parts of nature. Have your children make a list of what they want to find and help them add new things to it. See how many things you can find off the list. Children will have fun, get fresh air, and exercise too!

You can also go to the local library for story hour or a show. Try organizing a book swap in your neighborhood. Kids can bring 2 age appropriate books to swap with someone else. Adults can get involved as well and get a good book to read. Make it a neighborhood event and host at a different house each year during school vacation.

Go sledding if weather permits or clean out those closets and donate items that are in good shape to an organization. You can also volunteer at a local non-profit or charitable organization. Many people look at volunteering as a holiday event but the reality is your help and donations are needed throughout the year. For example you and your children could volunteer at a nursing home. Take some books with you or board games. Have your child read a story, play a game or do an art project with the residents there. Many elderly have no family and having a child come to visit and spend time with them is a great gift you can give to someone.

Making Crafts

If you don't want to leave the house, you can do arts and crafts at home. For example, make bread clay, it's very easy!

Bread Clay Recipe

6 Slices of white bread crust removed

6 TBS of white glue

½ TSP of liquid detergent

Food coloring

Paintbrush

Equal parts of white glue and water

Clear nail polish

Instructions

1. Knead bread w/glue and detergent until no longer sticky
2. Separate into equal portions.
3. Tint with food coloring
4. Let your child shape the clay
5. Brush with equal parts of water and glue for a smooth appearance
6. Let dry overnight
7. Paint with clear nail polish to preserve