Brrr! It’s Cold Outside – Winter Storytime Ideas

It won’t be long before cold breezes blow and snow starts to fall. Children are naturally curious about changes that happen each season. Fairfax County Public Library has many books, both fiction and non-fiction, for winter storytime fun!

**Fiction**

**Baby Penguins Everywhere!** by Melissa Guion
When a penguin finds a hat floating by, she discovers something inside—baby penguins!

**Bear and Wolf** by Daniel Salmieri
Bear and Wolf become unlikely companions one winter’s evening when they discover each other out walking in the falling snow.

**Bear is Not Tired** by Ciara Gavin
Bear is supposed to sleep through the winter, but he doesn’t want to miss out on any of the fun. Fortunately, Mama Duck comes up with a plan that will help everyone have the perfect winter.

**Hush Little Polar Bear** by Jeff Mack
A little girl invites her plush polar bear to dream of all of the places where sleeping bears go, from the high seas to a starry desert and back home.

**A Kitten Tale** by Eric Rohmann
As four kittens who have never seen winter watch the seasons pass, three of them declare the reasons they will dislike snow when it arrives, while the fourth cannot wait to experience it for himself.

**Lemonade in Winter: A Book About Two Kids Counting Money** by Emily Jenkins
Pauline and her brother John-John set up a stand to sell lemonade, limeade and lemon-limeade one cold, wintry day, then try to attract customers as Pauline adds up their earnings.

**Little Penguins** by Cynthia Rylant
During the first snowy day of winter, five little penguins bundle up and venture outside to play.

**A Loud Winter’s Nap** by Katy Hudson
Unmoved by his friends’ attempts to draw him out with singing classes and snowball fights, Tortoise tries to settle down for his annual winter nap and instead stumbles into a wonderfully icy experience.

**Mice Skating** by Annie Silvestro
Lucy the field mouse’s friends avoid going outdoors in winter until Lucy introduces the delights of skating.

**Polar Bear Morning** by Lauren Thompson
A little polar bear cub ventures out of her den for the first time and meets a new friend.

**Snow** by Sam Usher
Join a boy and his grandfather as they enjoy a snow day in the park.

**Sleep Tight Farm: A Farm Prepares for Winter** by Eugenie Doyle
It is December, and there are many things for the family to do around the farm to get it ready for winter.
Virgil and Owen by Paulette Bogan
Virgil the penguin finds a polar bear and tries to claim it as his own, but the polar bear wants to splash with the terns, slide with the seals, twirl with all the penguins and be called by his name—Owen.

Virgil and Owen Stick Together
by Paulette Bogan
Owen the polar bear and Virgil the penguin both love going to school... just in different ways. Eager Virgil likes to learn as much as he can, as quickly as possible. Owen likes to savor each moment. So when Virgil rushes Owen one day, their friendship is suddenly on thin ice.

Waiting for Snow by Marsha Diane Arnold
Badger cannot wait one more minute for it to snow. When his friend Hedgehog explains that everything comes in its time, Badger is unconvinced and impatient as ever. But Badger’s friends have a few tricks up their sleeves to get the snow’s attention and distract their pal in the meantime.

Winter’s Coming: A Story of Seasonal Change
by Jan Thornhill
When Lily, a young snowshoe hare, hears that winter is coming, she does not know what to expect, even as the other animals explain what they do to cope with the change of seasons, although, they note, snowshoe hares do not need to do the same.

Winter Dance by Marion Dane Bauer
A fox wonders how he should prepare for the coming winter, but what other animals advise will not work for him until another fox comes to his aid.

Non-Fiction

Best in Snow by April Pulley Sayre
A photographic non-fiction picture book about the wonder of snowfall and the winter water cycle

Penguins! by Anne Schreiber
Learn about penguins and how they live.

Penguins! by David Salomon
Follow a penguin couple through their efforts to raise a family of chicks. Discover many interesting facts about chinstrap penguins in Antarctica penguins. A Step Into Science book.

The Polar Bear by Jenni Desmond
Learn about polar bear bodies, habits and habitats.

Polar Bears by Tamra Orr
Looks at polar bears and how they survive in the wild, raise their cubs and are related to other species.

Winter Bees by Joyce Sidman
In this collection of poems, discover how animals stay alive in the wintertime and learn about their secret lives happening under the snow.

Library Shout Out: New STEAM Publication

The Fairfax County Public Library Early Literacy Resource Center offers a wide range of materials for parents and caregivers. The newest publication is a STEAM poster, designed to show caregivers how to connect books to the concepts of science, technology, engineering, arts and math (STEAM).

Each poster gives tips on activities to use with the featured book for each concept. A separate poster suitable for posting in a preschool or childcare center classroom explains each part of the STEAM acronym. These posters and other publications can be found at research.fairfaxcounty.gov/early-literacy/preschoolers.