

Family Winter Fun!



While most of us are dreaming about being on a sunny beach at this time of the year, there are some great ways to make the most of our cold winter climate. Here are 10 must-do winter family fun activities!

1. Hit the Trails

After a fresh snowfall, you'll want to make your mark in the white fluffy stuff whether it be by cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, tubing, or snowboarding. For more information on trails, hills and snow conditions, visit <https://www.epbrparks council.org/> your guide to winter fun and excitement in the Brazeau County.

2. Go for a Winter Hike

Go for a winter hike or go snowshoeing. Tote your camera, kids, and binoculars and admire the beautiful winter transformations. Winter is a great time to get outside to take in some of the art and beauty of nature.

3. Go Skating

There are plenty of indoor and outdoor facilities for skating in our area. Visit <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/outdoor-recreation/> for outdoor skating rinks in your neighborhood. And if outside is too cold, check out the Omniplex rink <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/omniplex/>

4. Dog Sledding

Dog Sledding is becoming a more popular way to celebrate the great Canadian winter! Visit <https://www.travelalberta.com/ca/things-to-do/winter-outdoor-activities/dog-sledding/> for more information on this fun activity.

5. Build a Snowman

Dress your snowman in one of your old Halloween costumes or used clothing. Use drops of food coloring to make colorful streaks through the snowman. Have contests to see who can make their snowman look most like your favourite character, a friend, you, or Mom or Dad!

6. Tobogganing

Sliding downhill is an exhilarating activity! You can use sleds, tobogganing carpets, or toboggans. Scout out a good, safe hill to conquer with that toboggan you've been storing in the garage! Children five to nine year of age are most susceptible to injury. Parents of young children should not let them sled alone and older children should be taught to check for hazards.

7. Winter Scavenger Hunt

Organize a winter scavenger hunt! Look out for these items this winter as you hike, ski, and play outdoors. Young and old will love the thrill of discovery in the great outdoors. A winter scavenger hunt can include: animal tracks in the snow, pine cones, twigs, icicles, a tunnel made in the snow by animals, a frozen waterfall, cocoons, nests, or identifying various pine trees.

8. Make a Snow Sculpture

Make a snow sculpture for some creative outdoor fun. Plow your driveway or yard to pile the snow high. Begin to sculpt with your hands, spoon, shovel, or other tools. Use your imagination to carve a form such as an animal, a snowman, Santa, or anything with a Winter theme. You can add color to your snow sculpture by dissolving food coloring in water and painting it on the sculpture or mixing it with the snow. Have a fun and don't forget to take a picture when you're done!

9. Winter Carnivals and Festivals

Winter carnivals and festivals taking place right in your area! You won't want

to miss out on the fun, from horse and sleigh rides to special exhibits, kids games, snow mazes, outdoor skating, bonfires, fireworks, pond hockey, ice sculptures, winter Olympics, live music and entertainment, and much more. Visit the Town of Drayton Valley, Brazeau County or Breton Town websites for activities in your area. Visit <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/events/list/> for events and festivals in our community. The Festival of Tree is always a great event see, <https://www.draytonvalley.ca/calendar/foundation-festival-of-trees-gala-dinner/>

10. Make some Hot Cocoa

Hot chocolate can really sooth and warm kids after outdoor activities. You can make it ahead and bring along a thermos to keep warm. Add some fun toppings to dress up your hot chocolate: a dash of cinnamon, a few spoonfuls of whipping cream with a dash of cocoa powder, chocolate sprinkles (or other fun colourful sprinkles), chocolate sauce, chocolate chips, or the classic: miniature marshmallows.

So why stay cooped up this Winter when there is so much to do to enjoy our great Canadian outdoors! Get out, bundle up, and have fun!