**Play Theme Planner**

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|  **Play Theme**: Winter |
| **Theme Building****(Days 1 – 3)** | **Introduction to Theme (Books/Media/Virtual Field Trips)**Winter Books (especially The Mitten & The Snowy Day)Videos of winter sports Outdoor experiences (if weather permits) | **Theme Building Child Activities (prop & setting making, etc.)**Signs, scenery, fish, hot chocolate, sleds, fireplace |
| **Centers** | **Roles & Role Props****(Tags, dress-up)** | **Scenario Framework****What Happens in Center?** | **Action Props & Role Supports** | **Story Problems-Emotional Terrain** | **Literacy & Math Elements** |
| **Dramatic Play:** Home/lodge | Family membersSweaters, pj’s, slippers, innkeeper, lodge guest, ornaments, clothesline, stockings, holiday cards, felt multicultural holiday traditions, Marshmallows | Bake cookies, Make cocoa, Build fire, Read stories in front of the fire, Watch TV, Roast marshmallows, Get Ready for bed.  | Oven, Fireplace, Baking supplies, Books, TV, Phone, Marshmallows, Pajamas,  | Can’t start fireChildren won’t get ready for bedCan’t decide on storyNo cookiesMarshmallows burnt or fell in the fireHot chocolate is to hot  | Books/Reading stories, Recipes, Count Marshmallows |
| **Blocks:** Winter Olympics/Games  | Participants, judges, spectators, medals, games, sleds, skiis, skates | Skiing, Toboggan riding, Judging, Award ceremony | Skis, Sleds, Medals, Pennants, Score, Sign, Torch, Podium Stand  | Accident on courseJudges can’t decide who won, ski broke, judge is sick.  | Time, Distance, Scores, Medal count, Signs, Books. Places (1st, 2nd, 3rd ).  |
| **Science:** Winter in the Woods/Hibernation  | Family members,animals, forest rangeranimal ears/tails, forest visitor, caves, bird feeders, fish for bears, fire pit, sticks, marshmallows.  | Make igloo, make/follow animal tracks in snow, camouflage, rescue, make caves, hang bird feeders, make smores  | Materials for igloo, “Snow”, Materials for making tracks, Materials for camouflage. Bird feeders and caves, material for smores.  | Can’t build iglooAccident: Need to be rescuedCan’t find animalsInjured animalAct out The Mitten | Book: The MittenWalkie-talkie – call for help, Ranger writes report, Sort/classify tracks |
| **Literacy:** Candy Cane Café  | Customer, server, bus boy, Hot chocolate, candy canes, ginger bread cookies, order forms, Hot coco machine | Serve cookies/hot chocolate, take and make orders at counter, make gingerbread cookies/houses.  | Pipe cleaner candy canes, play dough cookies, cardboard gingerbread houses, order forms  | I’m cold and need hot chocolate, there is no more hot chocolate/cookies, ran out of cups, spilled hot chocolate, dropped cookie  | Count money, read/write order, cookie shapes, size cups, read signs |
| **Table Toys**: Ice Fishing | Fishermen, Bait SellerHats, badge, license, fish, pond, penguins, ice,  | Get fishing license, Fish, Count/weigh fish, build ice structures, take care of penguins | Fishing licenses, Fishing poles, Fish, Pond, Scales, penguins, ice cubes | No licenseCan’t catch fishLine tangledNot catching fishPole brokenNo ice to fish  | Counting, weighing, measuring fish, Forms for license, books, match fish types |
| **Art:** Snow play  | Family Members, Weather Forecaster, Snow Plow DriverBoots, Mittens, Scarves, build a snowman, throw snowballs  | Report weather, Dress for weather, Shovel snow, Plow snow, make a snowman, throw snowballs, build a snow pile/mountain  | TV-Weather props,“Snow”, Plow, Cars, Shovels, snowmen, snowballs, snowball targets  | Snow too deepCar stuck in snowNot dressed for snowAct out The Snowy Day | The Snowy DayTemperature, Map, Weather symbols, Books, count snowballs, put snowman in order, make button patterns, target scores  |

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| **Centers** | **Simple Scenarios & Scripts** | **Vocabulary** |
| **Dramatic Play/****Home/****Lodge**  | The weather too cold to be outside, everyone must stay inside* “We are going to roast marshmallows by the fire.”
* “We are going to read stories by fire.”
* “Let’s make decorations.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | Fire placeRoastHot chocolateLodgeGuestsDecorate |
| **Blocks/****Winter Olympics/Games** | We need to practice more to do well at the event* “Let’s practice skiing/sledding.”
* “Let me see your medal.”
* “ Try your best.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | WinnerMedalOlympicsRacingScorePlaceToboggin  |
| **Science/Winter in the woods/hibernation**  | Animals need for the winter * “Do you see any tracks.”
* “Let’s leave fish for the bears.”
* “Did any of the animals eat the food we left.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | HibernationForest rangerBird feederTracksCaveFrozen  |
| **Literacy/****Candy Cane Café**  | We are cold and hungry. * “I would like to order a hot chocolate.”
* “Let’s make more cookies.”
* “Come in and get warm.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | CocoGingerbreadShelter HungryBreakColdSizes: small, medium, large  |
| **Table Toys/Ice fishing**  | We can’t catch fish. * “Did you feel the tug on your line.”
* “Do you have any fish in your net.”
* “Is the ice frozen.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | Ice fishingLicense Ice houseFishing poleFishing netFrozenScales |
| **Art****Snow** **Play**  | It’s too hard to build a snowman. * “Let’s build a snowman.”
* “We have to shovel the snow.”
* “Let’s see if we can hit the snowball target.”

**Scenario & Script Evolution: What can happen next?** | SnowmanShovelSnow plowStuck MountainTargetSnowballWeather |

