

Last Day of Winter Activities

Infants (Birth–12 months)

1) Winter-to-Spring Sensory Basket

Materials: basket, soft scarf, cotton ball “snow,” green fabric “grass,” silicone spoon, board book about seasons

Directions:

1. Sit baby on your lap and offer 1–2 items at a time.
2. Label simply: “Soft,” “cold,” “green,” “smooth.”
3. Read 2–3 pages of a seasons book and point to pictures.
4. End with a cuddle and “We notice changes.”

Safety: Avoid small items/choking hazards.

2) “Warm Sun” Gentle Light Play

Materials: safe flashlight or sunlight by a window, yellow scarf/tissue paper

Directions:

1. Shine light through yellow scarf/tissue (you hold it).
 2. Move slowly and narrate: “Sun... warm... glow.”
 3. Let baby track the light with eyes.
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3) Ice Melt Watch



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Materials: large ice cube in a clear container, towel

Directions:

1. Show ice: “Cold!”
 2. Let baby touch container briefly (not ice directly if too cold).
 3. Talk: “It melts—water!”
 4. Keep it very short (1–2 minutes).
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Young Toddlers (1–2 years)

1) “Bundle Up / Light Jacket” Dress-Up Sort

Materials: 2 baskets, a few winter items (hat, mittens), a few spring items (cap, light scarf)

Directions:

1. Show items one at a time: “Winter hat—where does it go?”
 2. Toddlers place into “winter” basket or “spring” basket (with help).
 3. Put on one item and do a silly mirror pose: “Winter!” / “Spring!”
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2) Snow-to-Rain Water Painting Outside

Materials: bucket/cup of water, big paintbrushes, sidewalk/fence

Directions:

1. Say: “We’re painting with water—like winter melting into spring!”
2. Toddlers paint; watch it disappear.
3. Add words: “wet/dry,” “more/less,” “big/small.”



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3) “Freeze Like Ice, Melt Like Water” Movement Game

Materials: none

Directions:

1. Say: “Freeze like ice!” (stand still)
 2. Say: “Melt like water!” (slowly lower to the ground or wiggle)
 3. Repeat 5–6 rounds.
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Older Toddlers (2–3 years)

1) Process Art: “Goodbye Winter” Collage

Materials: blue/white paper, cotton balls, tissue paper, glue sticks, markers

Directions:

1. Children glue cotton balls on one side (“winter”).
 2. Glue green/yellow tissue on the other side (“spring”).
 3. Add lines for wind/sun with crayons.
 4. Ask: “What do you like about winter?” (optional)
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2) Ice Rescue Sensory Tray

Materials: large ice cubes, toy animals, tray, salt (optional), droppers/cups of warm water

Directions:

1. Freeze toy animals inside ice (or place on ice).



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2. Kids “rescue” them by dripping warm water.
3. Optional: sprinkle a tiny bit of salt and observe faster melting.
4. Talk: “melt,” “cold,” “warm,” “change.”

Safety: Supervise closely; no salt tasting.

3) Signs of Spring Photo Hunt

Materials: picture cards of sun, buds, birds, puddles OR clipboard + crayons

Directions:

1. Walk outside and look for 2–3 signs: sun, birds, puddles, mud, wind.
 2. Kids point or draw one thing they saw.
 3. Share: “I saw ____.”
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Preschool (3–5 years)

1) “Winter vs. Spring” Science Chart

Materials: chart paper, markers, optional real items (leaf, pinecone, flower picture)

Directions:

1. Make 2 columns: Winter / Spring.
2. Ask: “What do we wear? What weather do we see? What do animals do?”
3. Add kid ideas with simple drawings.
4. Vote: “What sign of spring do you want to look for this week?”



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2) Melt Race Experiment

Materials: 2–3 ice cubes, trays, timer (optional), salt, sunlight/shade spots

Directions:

1. Predict: “Which ice will melt faster—sun or shade?”
 2. Place cubes in different spots and check every 2–3 minutes.
 3. Optional: sprinkle a little salt on one cube.
 4. Record results with pictures or tally marks.
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3) “Goodbye Winter” Classroom Parade

Materials: instruments (shakers/drums), streamers/scarves

Directions:

1. Practice a chant: “Goodbye winter, hello spring!”
 2. Parade once around the room or playground.
 3. End with a calm stretch: “Reach for the sun.”
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4) Seed Start Cups

Materials: cups, cotton balls/paper towel, beans, water

Directions:

1. Set up sprout cups (beans between cup and damp towel).
2. Label with name/date.



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3. Observe daily and draw growth.
 4. Connect: "Spring is a time for new plants."
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School Age (6+)

1) Winter Memories + Spring Goals Reflection

Materials: paper, pencils, optional template

Directions:

1. Prompt: "My favorite winter moment was..."
 2. Prompt: "One thing I want to do in spring is..."
 3. Share in pairs or create a class bulletin board.
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2) Weather Watchers Data Project

Materials: thermometer (optional), chart, pencil

Directions:

1. Track temperature and weather for one week around the last day of winter.
 2. Graph results (bar graph or line chart).
 3. Discuss: "What patterns do we notice?"
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3) Spring Cleanup Crew

Materials: gloves, trash bags, sanitizer (adult supervision)

Directions:



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1. Review safety rules.
 2. Clean a small outdoor area for 10–15 minutes.
 3. Sort findings into “trash” vs “recycle” (if appropriate).
 4. Reflect: “How did we help our space?”
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4) Build a Mini “Season Shelter” STEM Challenge

Materials: recycled materials, tape, scissors

Directions:

1. Challenge: Build a shelter that could help an animal stay warm in winter OR dry in spring rain.
2. Test with a fan (wind) or spray bottle (rain—lightly).
3. Improve designs and discuss.



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