

#GUIDES

Make your kid's winter holiday memorable

Most schools are closed because of the winter vacation, and this is a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with your children. There are plenty of things that you and your family can do within the country, the city, and even in the comfort of your home without breaking the bank!

Domestic travels

With prices soaring globally, vacations are now more expensive than ever, especially international vacations. However, that should not stop you from planning trips within the country. You can visit places within Bangladesh, all those amazing destinations, the historic and scenic places that you have not explored yet. Go for day trips or one/two-night stays so the pressure on your wallet is not unbearable.

Domestic travelling is also a wonderful opportunity for your children to love, appreciate, and experience their own country.

Connect with extended family

We have become like machines, it's one task after another with little to no break in between. Relax this winter, take time off work, and connect with your extended family— grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins – in person. Perhaps plan a family picnic like the good old days. How will these benefit your child? One, your child will get to know his “big” family, and two, he will establish social bonds with people who can give him support and comfort during both good and bad times.

Studies show that youths are now lonelier than ever. Knowing and connecting with our extended family could tell our children that there are more people who love and care for them than they have ever thought!

Movie marathons

Make a cuppa for yourself and hot chocolate for your child, crawl under a blanket, and enjoy a family film. We suggest that you make a list of some must-watch films, especially the classics. We recommend Home Alone, Home Alone 2: Lost in New York, Elf, The Polar Express, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, Jingle All the Way, The Santa Clause, etc. In my house, some of these films are watched every year during the winter holiday time; they never get old!



But, why enjoy movies only at home? Take your children to movie theatres, too, this winter holiday.

Board games

I still remember the unadulterated fun I had while playing chess, ludo, monopoly, and carrom matches against my parents, sibling, aunts, uncles, and cousins. When there were no internet and people were not staying hooked on their smartphone day and night, it was these board games which kept them from getting bored. The best thing about board games is that you cannot play them alone, meaning that these games bring people closer and create connections with friends and family.

Does your child know how to play chess

yet? If not, consider teaching them the game this winter break. Chess helps children develop patience, creativity, problem-solving, and strategic thinking skills.

“Chess is the gymnasium of the mind,” said Blaise Pascal, the influential 17th century French mathematician, and philosopher.

Art and crafts

The internet is full of art and craft ideas. Browse the internet and choose a few art and craft projects that you and your child can enjoy during the winter holiday time.

Art encourages problem-solving skills, creativity, and imaginative thinking — all of which are linked to long-term professional success!

This winter break, be messy. Bring out what you already have at home or make a small investment in drawing and painting materials, scissors, glue, strings, beads, buttons, fabric strips, multicolour paper, empty boxes, popsicle sticks, etc. and embark on art and craft projects with your children.

Your children will always cherish these beautiful bonding times with their parents; these activities may even become family traditions over time and pass down through generations!

By Wara Karim

Photo: LS Archive/Sazzad Ibne Sayed/ The Palace Luxury Resort

Winter activities for children

Winter in Bangladesh can be a great time for children to enjoy fun and exciting activities. There are many ways for children to have fun and stay active during the colder months. From indoor games and crafts to outdoor activities and cultural events, there is something for every child to enjoy. Here are a few ideas for winter activities for kids in Bangladesh that parents and caregivers can consider.

Pitha (sweet winter treats) is the first thing any child should make synonymous with winter. Try making them on cold winter mornings with the whole family.

Nothing beats this kind of quality time with your children and family.

Visit indoor play areas or amusement parks for fun and exercise. For example, taking your young ones cycling in Dhaka's parks can be one of the most fun family activities you can have. It's healthy and warms the body, and children can really make a day out of it during the winter.

Take them on short trips to the outskirts of Dhaka, to a nearby zoo, to libraries, or to museums to learn about different cultures, history, and animals and their habitats. Panam City, Lalbag Kella, and

the Liberation War Museum are just a few places.

Attend a theatre performance or a live concert to introduce children to the arts. It is a great way to introduce children to the world of art, music, and performances. Who knows, the inspiration they get might be the very reason they do something big in the future.

Play winter sports! Get your children hyped up and excited about the joy of playing sports! Badminton is one such sport, among others, that can be played on your neighbourhood streets, garages,

backyard, or rooftops.

Organising a family picnic in an eco-resort can be a great way to enjoy the fresh air and the beauty of nature while bonding with loved ones. Numerous such resorts in Gazipur, Tongi, and Savar can be found online.

Base Camp, Kaalmegha Country Club & Resort, Green View Golf Resort, or Chuti Resort can be the perfect places that offer fun activities, ambiance, and service that can be enjoyed with family.

By K Tanzeel Zaman