



A Reproducible Learning Guide for Educators

This guide is designed to help educators prepare for, enjoy, and discuss *The Snowy Day*. It contains discussion questions, background, and activities appropriate for Ages 3-7.

Programs Are Made Possible, In Part, By Generous Gifts From:

The Nora Roberts Foundation
Smithsonian Women's Committee
Sommer Endowment



Smithsonian Associates

ABOUT THE FILM



The Snowy Day is a Daytime Emmy Award-winning animated film, based on Ezra Jack Keats' 1962 classic story. Narrated by Laurence Fishburne, it features the voice talents of Regina King, Angela Bassett and Jamie-Lynn Sigler.

The film follows young Peter's magical, snowy walk to his Nana's house to bring home their Christmas Eve dinner. On the way, he meets some new and diverse friends who come together to celebrate many traditions.

Author Ezra Jack Keats (1916-1983) was a pioneer in American children's literature. He based the lives of his multiracial characters on his childhood and added loving parents, friends, and pets. He wanted no child to be an outsider. **"If we could see each other exactly as the other is," he wrote, "this would be a different world."**

A HUGE THANKS TO...

The **Ezra Jack Keats Foundation** for making this program possible. For more books and information about *The Snowy Day*, visit their website: www.ezra-jack-keats.org.



Amazon Studios for the movie rights.



MAKE A HANGING SNOWFLAKE

Materials:

- 4 popsicle sticks
- A big bag of white buttons/decorations
- White paint
- Glue

Directions:

1. Glue the sticks together by placing a dot of glue in the middle of one stick and forming an X with the sticks. Then add the next two sticks to make a snowflake with eight branches.
2. Paint the popsicle sticks white and wait for them to dry.
3. Glue on some white buttons!
4. Tie a string around the end of one branch (the button should hold it in place) and make a loop for hanging!



For more crafts: thecraftingchicks.com/2010/12/christmas-word-art-framed.html

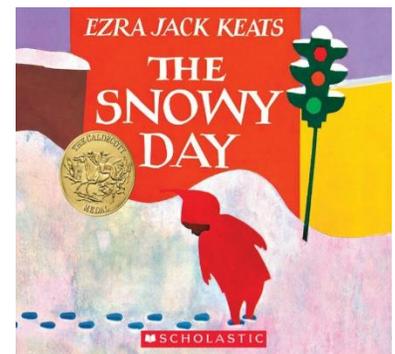
READ

The Snowy Day

By: Ezra Jack Keats Illustrated by: Ezra Jack Keats

Wake up with Peter to a snow-covered day where adventure awaits. This story has become a favorite of millions, as it reveals a child's wonder at a new world, and the hope of capturing and keeping that wonder forever.

Learn more: [The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats | Scholastic Education](http://www.Scholastic.com/learningresources/ezra-jack-keats-the-snowy-day)



SMITHSONIAN CONNECTION

In Our Collection:

"The Snowy Day" Forever Stamps (2017)

These Forever Stamps were created and issued by the U.S. Postal Service in 2017 to honor Ezra Jack Keats and the positive impact his stories have had on children for over 50 years.

From the collections at the National Postal Museum
Learn more: [Beast Paper Puppet | Smithsonian Institution](#)



Wilson A. Bentley Photomicrograph of a Stellar Snowflake No. 1018 (Ca. 1890)

William A. Bentley was the first recorded person to have taken photographs of snowflakes! He took his first successful snowflake photomicrograph (a photograph of a microscopic object) in 1885 by attaching his camera to a microscope and using a feather to transfer snowflakes onto the microscope slide. Bentley would go on to take over 5,000 photomicrographs of snowflakes in his life, later donating the prints to the Smithsonian in 1903.

From the collections at the Smithsonian Libraries and Archives
Learn more: [Wilson A. Bentley: Pioneering Photographer of Snowflakes | Smithsonian Institution Archives](#)



About Discovery Theater

Since 1979, Discovery Theater, the unique, DC-based museum theater has served as a gateway to Smithsonian exhibitions, collections, and themes. Through the joy of live stage performances, students from pre-K through 6th grade are immersed in global cultures, eco-science, living history, and traditional arts. Discovery Theater performances are created to complement students' classroom-based learning; to enrich audiences' knowledge of the arts, history, sciences, and cultures of the world; to foster a love of live theater; and to provide entertaining, educational museum-based interactive experiences.

Don't Miss Our Upcoming Shows!



Come Rap with Mr. Root! With Jamaal "Mr. Root" Collier

Thurs.-Fri., Feb. 19 & 20, 2026 at 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Recommended for Ages: 3 - 7 / Pre-K to Grade 2

Powerful Pollinators

Tues.-Fri., March 24 - 27, 2026 at 10:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m.

Recommended for Ages: 3 to 7 / Pre-K to Grade 2

