



Cozy Up and Create!

ACTIVITY GUIDE

**Alliance
Theatre**

kathy & ken
bernhardt **THEATRE FOR
THE
VERY YOUNG**

Window to My World Activity

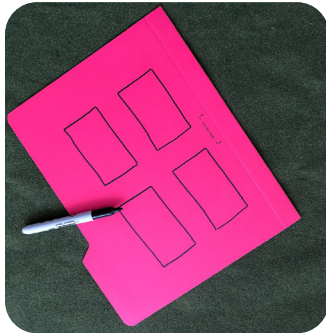
Supplies:

- File folder, cereal box, or thick paper
- Scissors
- Markers, crayons, or anything to decorate



Fun Tip for Grown-ups: Make your own window so each family member has one to hold. Play along and follow your little one's lead.

Instructions:



Take a file folder and draw a window on the outside of one side.

- Is your window big or small?
- Is your window short or tall?
- Curtains or shutters?

Have a grown-up cut out window panes so you can see through the beautiful window.



On the inside of the folder, draw a picture of your favorite room in your home.

- What furniture is in this room?
- What is your family doing in this picture?
- Is it morning? Is it dinner time?
Is it game night?

Bring it along on your Sounds Scavenger Hunt.
What interesting scenes can you create with your window?



Sounds Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt

Do you hear that? It sounds like winter... The wind is blowing and leaves are rustling on the ground. People are inside warming themselves from the chilly streets. Bundle up and take a walk in your neighborhood, your street, your favorite park, or your backyard. What sounds do you hear? Listen closely, you might even hear something surprising!

Fun Tip for Grown-ups:

Bring along some surprising sounds and make silly noises as you walk. *Don't tell your little one. Have them guess what that sound might be!*

Use the Sounds Scavenger Hunt sheet on page 4

to mark each sound you hear. Fill in your own favorite sounds in the blank squares provided.

Not a Box Imagination Game

Place a large box in the center of the room. Each family member will take a turn using the box as something other than what it is. They can get inside it, sit on top, pick it up, the sky's the limit. If you find they are stuck on getting in the box and doing the same action, turn it over or on its side and ask them to think of something different.

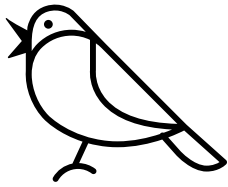
Once they have an idea, they may step forward and say, "It's not a box, it's a _____" and then complete the motion or make the sound, turning the object into something else.

All family members can play along on this adventure!

Mirror Mirror Dance

Everyone is the "mirror" reflecting all of the movements of the selected leader. Play music that will help establish control and set a calming mood. Movements should be slow, precise and easy to follow. After a few moments, the leader selects a new leader to be in charge. Can you create an entire dance from your mirrored movement?

Sounds Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt



Bird Chirping



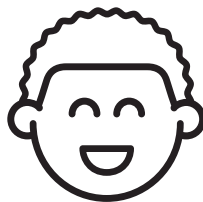
Chatting



Car Horn



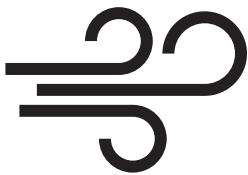
Footsteps



Laughter



Car Engine



Wind



Leaves Crunching

Coffee Filter Snowflakes

Supplies:

- Coffee Filter
- Safety Scissors
- Washable Markers (optional)
- String (for hanging and decorating your home)



Instructions:

Fold a coffee filter in half, then fold it in half again until you have a thin, flat cone shape.



Cut different shapes into the folds. These will show up as patterns!



Optional: For a colorful snowflake, color in the remaining folded space with washable markers. Drip water on the filter and watch the color spread.



Unfold the snowflake and witness your unique creation! Tie or tape string to your snowflake, and decorate your home for a winter celebration!



Party Quirks Improvisational Game:

1. Gather your family to set up the game. Call out your favorite characters that would be really fun guests at an imaginary party. Practice acting out each character with your body before moving on.
 2. One family member will be throwing a party, and the others will pretend to be different characters from the list in step one. **Tip:** Don't let the "host" hear you assign or choose your party guest characters! The guests will continue to act like these characters until the party host has figured out which character each person is playing.
 3. Once the host guesses all of the characters, rotate to a new family member to play the host, and assign new characters for the rest of the family.
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Family Storytelling

Sharing stories is the best way to stay connected, even when we are miles apart! Celebrate your winter traditions by collecting and retelling stories through the following exercise.

1. Call or video chat your family member that lives the furthest from your home. This could be your grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, who knows! Ask them the following questions:
 - When you were my age, what did you do to stay warm in winter?
 - Tell me about your favorite winter day from your childhood. Who was there? What did you do? What made it special?
2. Record this conversation by either voice recording, take notes, draw a picture, or something even more creative and brilliant.
3. Picture your family member telling this story. What would they be wearing? Go to your closet and pick out an outfit you think they might wear and try it on.
4. Next, dig deep in your memory and try retelling their story as if you were pretending to be them. Try on a voice to sound more like them. Would they be standing or sitting for their story? Do they speak slowly or really fast?
5. It's time to share! Ask the family in your home to gather around for a story, and maybe they can film it so you have a copy forever. Starting with the words "It was a chilly winter day when...", pretend you are that family member retelling the story of their favorite winter day!

Share your recording by posting to social media using **#atknockknock** or email us at **attvy@alliancetheatre.org@alliancetheatre.org** to be featured online! We can't wait to hear your story.

Recommended Book List

- *Windows* by Julia Denos
- *What If...* by Samantha Berger
- *A Kids Book About Creativity* by Sara & Stewart Scott-Curran
- *Everybody in the Red Brick Building* by Anne Wynter
- *Not a Box* by Antoinette Portis
- *What to Do With a Box* by Jane Yolen
- *My Friend Maya Loves to Dance* by Cheryl Willis Hudson and Eric Velasquez
- *This Is It* by Daria Peoples-Riley
- *Let's Dance!* by Valerie Bolling
- *Noisy Night* by Mac Barnett
- *Blackout* by John Rocco