**Dry Winter Wonderland**

**Materials**
- large tub or sensory table
- large bag of cornstarch
- small plastic animals
- smocks
- wet towel
- small shovels
- bowls

**What to do**
1. Fill the sensory table one third full with cornstarch.
2. Hide small plastic animals in the cornstarch.
3. Make sure children wear smocks while playing in the cornstarch. Also, cornstarch becomes very slippery when spilled on a floor so have a wet towel nearby for the children to wipe their feet when they are finished.
4. Encourage the children to search for animals, build “homes” for the animals out of cornstarch, and explore as desired.
5. If the area is carpeted, it is fun to watch the creation of white footprints! Just vacuum the floor when done.

**Related books**
- Look! Snow! by Kathryn O. Galbraith
- The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- White Snow, Bright Snow by Alvin Tresselt

**Glitter Playdough**

**Materials**
- glitter
- homemade playdough
- rolling pins
- seasonal-shaped cookie cutters

**What to do**
1. Add new sparkle and vitality to your playdough center by sprinkling glitter into your favorite playdough recipe.
2. Provide rolling pins and seasonal-shaped cookie cutters for children to cut out dough shapes.
3. Children will rush to the sensory center with new enthusiasm!
**Miniature Snowmen**

**Materials**
- fresh snow
- large tubs
- large towel
- mittens
- small twigs
- 1” x 6” scraps of material
- muffin liners
- beads or pebbles
- baby carrots

**What to do**
1. Gather fresh snow in large tubs and bring it into the classroom. Spread large towels on the table and put the materials in separate bowls.
2. Ask the children to put on mittens before working with the snow. Help them mold snowballs to make a snowman’s body.
3. Encourage them to decorate their snowmen using small twigs for arms, material scraps for scarves, muffin cups for hats, beads or pebbles for eyes and mouth (watch for choking hazard), and baby carrots for noses.
4. Follow up with observations of the melting snow.
5. If snow is unavailable, use white modeling dough (see recipe below).
   Children can use Mr. Potato Head accessories to decorate the snowman.

**Modeling Dough Recipe**
- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup salt
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1 cup water
- 1 tablespoon oil
- ¼ cup white powdered tempera paint

Combine all the ingredients and cook over medium heat, stirring until it forms a ball. Remove from heat, let it cool, and knead.