

Ty Ankrom's Here's What I Think ...

We knew it would happen ... winter! Very cold mornings created delays and snow days for county schools this week.

Wednesday's snow day was primarily because of a concern over icy roads. So sledding and building snowmen may not have been on everyone's agenda.

But other activities for kids for future snow days (after all, there are 63 days until spring) can be found in Pickaway County.

The Pickaway County Library has plenty of materials for readers (and non-readers) of all ages, said Michelle Callahan, the library's Community Relations coordinator. Many items are available online.

"Online materials include Flipster for digital magazines, Overdrive for e-books and e-audio and Hoopla for movies and music," she said. "Download materials from these services through the library's Web site (<http://pickawaylib.org>) and you don't even have to leave home."

"Whether it is at the library or at home, on a tablet or in print — a snowy day is the perfect time to sit down and read," said David Fausnaugh, library director.

If the weather isn't too bad and people want to go to the library, there are, of course, books, magazines and newspapers at the main branch in Circleville and the Younkin Branch in Ashville.

Plus, said Michelle, "The Youth Room at the main branch has toys and puzzles available and the Information Desk usually has a 1,000-piece puzzle in progress for anyone to work. The Younkin Branch has a lot of board games that they will put out for anyone to play."

The library also has a monthly calendar that lists activities that can be received via e-mail. The sign-up link is on the library's home page.



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Pickaway County
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Jan. 18, 2019

The Pickaway County Family YMCA is a great community site for kids to be active inside during a snow day.

Jeff Phillips, executive director for the Y, said that the branch offers School Days Off programming to children who are paying members of the Y-Clubs (before- and after-school programming in the Circleville, Teays Valley and Westfall districts).

"This is supervised child care for working families. Children in this program work on homework, play in the gym, swim, do arts and crafts, and receive a meal," he said.

Children who are not members can purchase a day pass (\$10 for adult; \$3 for children), but children younger than 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

"A lot of parents are teachers and would be off with their children," Jeff said. "A snow day would be a great time for a non-member to buy a couple of day passes and investigate all the Y has to offer."

But if staying home and watching a movie is more your thing, be ready with a list of movies that have earned the Common Sense

Seal. Common Sense Media is a non-profit organization that educates children on being savvy in the world of media and technology.

Go to www.common sense media.org/seal to see what movies and TV shows get their seal of approval.

The organization also provides best movie, TV, book, app and game lists and reviews.

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