

WINTER WARMTH

“Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship.” —Bahá’u’lláh

As winter approaches, there are plenty of reasons to spend time with loved ones. On November 26, Bahá’ís honor ‘Abdu’l-Bahá on the Day of the Covenant. On November 28, we commemorate the Ascension of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.

Many also join family and friends for other celebrations, such as Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the Chinese and Gregorian New Years. Whatever holy days and holidays you enjoy this season, here are some ideas to add fun to your next gathering.

COMMUNITY COLLAGE

On large posterboard, write a quote about friendship, unity, or joy. Gather paper with different textures and patterns, in colors that complement each other.

Everyone cuts out nature shapes, such as flowers and leaves. Work together to layer and arrange shapes into a collage around the quote.



HEART ART



Give everyone four wooden craft sticks. Glue together at the corners to form a square frame. From cardstock, everyone cuts out a heart that fits inside their frame. On the heart, they write a virtue that uplifts individuals and communities.

Decorate heart and frame with markers, stickers, buttons, etc. Glue a string loop on the back of the heart and frame for hanging.

ANIMAL MYSTERIES



For each player, write a different animal name on a sticky note. Place one sticky note on each person’s back, where they can’t see it.

Players mingle, view others’ animals, and ask each other yes or no questions, such as “Is it a mammal?” or “Does it live in the water?” Play until everyone has correctly guessed their animal.

HONEY OAT BARS

Mix 1 cup rolled oats, 1 cup flour, ½ tsp baking soda, ½ tsp salt, and ½ cup brown sugar together. Melt together ½ cup butter, 3 Tbsp honey, and 1 Tbsp water. Pour into oat mixture and stir. Add ¾ cup mix-ins, such as shredded coconut, chocolate chips, nuts, or dried cranberries.

Press mixture into a greased 11" x 7" pan. Bake at 325° for 20–25 minutes. Cool, cut, and share with friends.



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