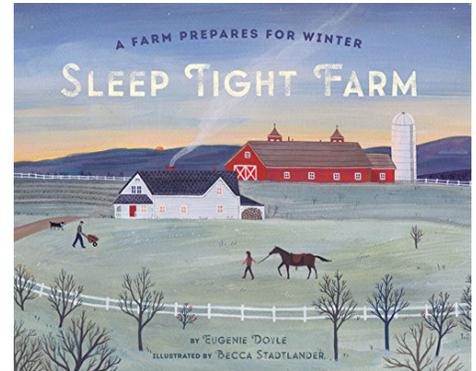


# Sleep Tight Farm by Eugenie Doyle

**Book Synopsis:** *Sleep Tight Farm* by Eugenie Doyle tells the story of how a busy farm prepares for a quiet winter. The beautifully illustrated book depicts how the tasks and chores accomplished throughout the year all interconnect to give the family a well-earned rest during the cold, winter months.



## Connection to Iowa History

Iowa endures many winter storms each year with plenty of snow to sled, create a snow fort or even win a snowball fight. On average, Iowa receives 32.4 inches of snow each winter. During a blizzard in Iowa's early statehood, an estimated 20.5 inches of snow was recorded to fall in Muscatine, Iowa, on Dec. 21, 1847. The earliest snowfall in Iowa on record occurred on September 16, 1881. Observers across the state reported a variety of snowfall totals that day which varied to a few snowflakes in Sac City and Des Moines, but up to six inches in Pottawattamie County.

- [Listen to an audio recording of the book](#)

## Storytime Activity

After reading the story, design and cut your own paper snowflakes to celebrate the winter season. You can make one or a whole blizzard of snowflakes to give away as gifts or decorate your home.

### Instructions

- 1 Square it up.** Using scissors, trim your white printer paper from a rectangle shape into a square. The size of the square can vary depending on the final desired size of the snowflake being created.
- 2 Fold a triangle.** Fold the square in half diagonally to create a triangle.
- 3 Fold another triangle.** Fold the triangle in half again diagonally, which will create an even smaller triangle.
- 4 Fold into thirds.** Fold the small triangle into thirds. The left third of the triangle will be folded in front of the middle section and the right third of the triangle folded to the back of the middle section. This will leave you with one long triangle.
- 5 Trim.** Using scissors, cut the points off the bottom of your triangle to form a straight edge.
- 6 Design.** Using your scissors, cut different shapes and designs around the sides of the triangle. Do not cut out all the folded seams, because then it will fall apart when unfolded.
- 7 Unfold.** After you have finished cutting your design, unfold the paper to see the finished snowflake.

### Materials

- White printer paper
- Scissors
- **Optional:** String and tape

*Instructions continued on next page*

# *Sleep Tight Farm* by Eugenie Doyle

## Instructions continued

- 8 **Display or gift.** Create multiple snowflakes and hang them from a string with tape to create a blizzard banner. Another option is to write a short message on the snowflake and give it to friends and family as a gift.
- 9 **Share!** After you complete your snowflakes, share your work with the State Historical Museum of Iowa. Email a photo to [museum.education@iowa.gov](mailto:museum.education@iowa.gov). We want to share your creation with others!
- 10 **Questions to Spark Learning**
  - What is your favorite activity to do in Iowa during winter? Why?
  - Iowa had many large snowstorms in the past, particularly like the one in 1847 that left 20.5 inches of snow. Imagine you lived in Iowa in 1847. What would you do if you were an early settler and woke up to all that snow? How would you manage?
  - Do you have any special winter memories? What was it and why was it so memorable?