

Advent Calendar

Please feel free to use this Advent Calendar with your family.

Merry Christmas!

1. Print pages 4 and 5 (you may like to print page 5 on slightly thicker card, or stick it to some card to stiffen it up a bit).
2. Select activities from the list below and write them into the squares on page 5.
3. Using a sharp knife (eg. craft knife) and a metal ruler, cut along the sides and the bottom of the boxes (dotted lines) on page 4.
4. Carefully check that the boxes on page 4 line up with the boxes on page 5. Mark the edges of the paper if they don't quite line up, so that when you glue them together the boxes will line up. (Be careful to not fold up the 'doors' when you check).
5. Put some glue on the back of page 4 (stick glue is the best) making sure that you avoid the boxes, and carefully stick to the front of page 5.
6. Trim the edges of the paper to neaten it up.
7. Attach it to the wall, and let the excitement build as you open one door each day as it gets closer to Christmas.

Some more Christmas activity ideas

- Watch "It's a Wonderful Life" together.
- Put up indoor Christmas decorations. Save the Christmas tree for another day.
- Make food and take it to a local food pantry, homeless shelter, soup kitchen.
- Decorate the yard, porch, and other outside areas of your home for the holiday.
- Make Christmas cookies. Be sure to make extra for family and friends.
- Get your Christmas tree, or, if you don't use a live tree, put up and decorate your Christmas tree.
- The Angel Visits Mary (Mark 1:1-8) reading from the Bible. Share hot cocoa and Christmas cookies together as you read these verses.
- Take Christmas cookies to a shut-in at your church.
- String popcorn to hang on your Christmas tree.
- Make salt dough ornaments.
- Watch "The Greatest Story Ever Told" together.
- Go Christmas shopping. Plan to buy gifts for a needy child or family.
- Wrap Christmas gifts.
- Read Luke 1:26-38 together. Make homemade egg-nog.
- Deliver Christmas gifts.
- Drive around your town together and look at Christmas lights.
- Go Christmas carolling.
- Bake a Christmas yeast honey whole wheat bread.
- Watch "The Nativity" together.

- Build a snowman.
- Read Matthew 1:18-24. Enjoy Christmas bread together.
- Read Luke 2:1-5. Enjoy family celebrations.
- Paint everybody's toenails in Christmas colours.
- Make Christmas cards.
- Make Christmas ornaments.
- Make gift tags.
- Purchase a present to give to charity.
- Have a picnic for dinner.
- Write a letter to Santa.
- Make gifts for teachers.
- Hold a family disco.
- Go out somewhere special for dinner.
- Eat fancy ice creams after dinner.
- Watch a Christmas movie before bed.
- Have hot chocolate with all the fixings (we might do milkshakes if it's too hot)
- Star gazing
- Give everyone crazy hairstyles
- Backyard cricket
- Go out for sushi
- Have an indoor picnic
- Use puppets to tell bedtime story
- Have breakfast for dinner (I am thinking pancakes)
- Have a camp out around the Christmas tree
- Pack a picnic dinner and have it at a park (or Botanical Gardens)
- Fancy dress for dinner time
- Make handmade gift tags for relatives
- Fish and Chips for dinner down at the beach
- Fold origami for the Christmas tree
- Watch a Christmas movie with popcorn
- Go out for gelato
- Have a bubble bath
- Special Christmas Eve treat
- Do mum's hair (brush, braid, add hair clips)
- Build a fort or tunnel.
- Going food shopping and bringing that food to a soup kitchen
- Having a tea party

- Raking and then jumping in piles of leaves
- Telling ghost stories by the fireplace
- Going bowling
- Planning your next family vacation
- Having a slide show of photos on a projector
- Playing board games
- Walking a dog all together
- Working on a craft project
- Taking photos of each other
- Watching the sunset
- Read a Christmas story together
- Let the kiddos pick out whatever they want for dinner and let them help fix it
- Breakfast for dinner (pancakes, scrambled eggs)
- Make paper snowflakes and display them
- Make a gingerbread house (use graham crackers, dried fruit and peanut butter instead of candy)
- Go to the thrift store/dollar store and give each child a dollar to spend on a gift for daddy/mommy/each other/his-herself
- Paint acrylic ornaments or Christmas decorations
- Buy Christmas colouring books and new crayons and colour
- Go Sledding
- Make Teacher Gifts
- Make Grandparent Gifts
- Eat Ice Cream Sundaes
- See a Holiday Show
- Watch a Christmas Movie and Eat Popcorn
- Make Popcorn and Cranberry Garland
- Have Hot Chocolate and Read Holiday Stories
- Make a paper chain for the tree
- Dance and sing to Christmas music
- Candlelit bubble bath
- Let's go ice skating today!
- Make a list of ten things you are thankful for. Hang it where you can see it every day.
- Make and hang edible gifts for the birds and squirrels.
- Watch a Christmas movie in the fold out bed!
- Breakfast in bed!
- Unwrap one present after dinner (mum and dad get to pick which one)

“And His name will be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince
of Peace.”

Isaiah 9:1-6



