

## Family Activity Jar

Pick one each day leading up to Christmas.

Tip: Tie a Christmas bow around your jar for a festive look.



## Sing Carols



Sing your favorite Christmas carols. Sing all together, or take turns, karaoke-style.

## Decorate Cookies



Bake cookies or decorate store-bought cookies with frosting and sprinkles. Who might you be able to share some with?

## Ugly Christmas Sweater Photo



Take a family photo wearing ugly Christmas sweaters, and share the photo to make someone smile.

## Send Cards

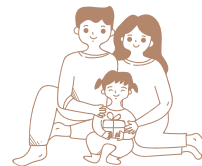


Send Christmas cards to family or friends.

Consider making your own cards for a personal touch.

## Movie Night

Put on your pajamas, make popcorn and watch a classic Christmas movie.



## Red or Green Bath Time

Take a red or green bath with food coloring.



## I Spy on the Tree



Play "I Spy" with the ornaments on your Christmas tree.

## Light in the Dark



Turn off all the lights. Turn on your tree lights or light a candle, and remember "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

-John 1:5

## Hang Mistletoe



Hang mistletoe, real or paper, and give someone in your family a kiss.

## Family Story Time

Wrap up in snuggly blankets around the Christmas tree and read a holiday book together.



## Light Drive



Go on a drive to see your neighborhood Christmas lights! Look up Christmas houses in your area that welcome guests to visit.

## Christmas Pageant

Go watch a Christmas pageant. Tip: Many churches host pageants that are free to the public.



## St. Nicholas



Research together the true story of Saint Nicholas.

## Photo with Santa



Go to a local mall or look up where else in your area Santa will be visiting, and get a photo with him.

## Christmas Crafternoon

Pull out all your craft supplies and make cards, decorations or gift tags.



## Letter to Santa

Write a letter to Santa Claus. Tell him something you want for yourself, and something you'd like him to give to someone you love.



## Thank You, God

Write a letter to God, to say thank you for sending baby Jesus.



## Dance Party

Have a Christmas dance party with songs like "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" and "Holly Jolly Christmas."



## Christmas Elves



Pretend you're at the North Pole and you're the elves making presents for children around the world.

## True Meaning of Christmas

Watch "A Charlie Brown Christmas" or "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

What stood out to you? What did you learn about the true meaning of Christmas?

## Christmas Past

Look at Christmas photographs from years past.

Which is your favorite photo and why?



## Follow the Star



Make a paper star and take turns hiding it around the house. Whoever finds it is like the wise magi who followed the star to find baby Jesus.

## Pretend Presents

Pretend to wrap "Christmas gifts" by wrapping toys in blankets. Then practice giving them to each other.

Tip: Young kids will love this!

### Hot Cocoa Bar



Make a hot cocoa bar with marshmallows, candy canes, whip cream and sprinkles.

### Snowball Fight

Have a playful snowball fight if you have real snow, or pretend by giving each person 3-5 white pieces of paper to ball up. Put on the song "Frosty the Snowman" and remember to play nicely.



### No Technology

Turn off all your phones, computers, tablets and devices for a few hours or the entire day, so you can focus on being present with each other.



### Knock and Run



Leave a surprise gift at someone's front door.

### Wrap a Bible

Wrap up a Bible with wrapping paper. Put it under the tree, and on Christmas Eve, unwrap it and read Luke 2:8-20.



### Joyeux Noël

Learn how to say "Merry Christmas" in other languages.



### Paper Snowflakes

Make paper snowflakes, and hang them up with string. Listen to "Winter Wonderland."



### Donate Food

Look through your pantry and pick items to donate to your local shelter. Be sure to check the expiration dates.



### Record a Carol

Record yourself singing a Christmas song, and send it to a friend or family member.



### Practice Gratitude

List ten people or things you're thankful for.



### Give Warm Toes

Keep a pack of new socks, bottled water and healthy bars in your car to give to people you see who are in need.

Tip: Put a few items in a large ziploc for quick giving at red-lights.

### Feed the Birds

They like bird seed, dried fruit or unsalted peanuts.



## Cookies for Santa

On Christmas Eve, leave milk and cookies for Santa, and carrots or another treat for the reindeer.



## Decorate the Tree



Take turns picking ornaments and hanging them on the tree.

## Volunteer

Volunteer at a food bank, shelter, or nursing home.

Tip: This is particularly good for older children and adults.



## Build a Snowman

Build a real snowman or make a snowman craft.



## Snuggle Party

Snuggle with your family and talk about everything you love about Christmas time.



## Gingerbread House

Make a gingerbread house!



## Make Snow Angels

Real or Pretend!  
It's good exercise, too!



## Candy Cane Gifts

Get candy canes ready to give throughout the holiday season. Even better if you tie on a kind message with ribbon.



## Nature Walk

Bundle up and go "walking in a winter wonderland."  
Notice together what you see, feel, smell and hear along the way.



## Wrap Stories

Wrap up four Christmas picture books. Open one each week and read it by your lit tree.



## Video Call

Video call a loved one to say "Merry Christmas!"



## Give Christmas

Collaborate with an organization to provide Christmas gifts to a child or family in need.

