

Fun and Meaningful Family Activities for December - Try One or Try Them All

<p>Pick a hands on Nativity themed activity:</p> <p>http://bit.ly/HandsOnNativity</p>	<p>Have a quiet night at home playing your favorite board games, while enjoying cocoa and snacks.</p>	<p>Mark the days of Advent with a Names of Jesus printable chain</p> <p>spelloutloud.com/names-of-jesus-advent-chain.html</p>	<p>Attend a Christmas parade.</p>	<p>Pick out at least one gift from a local store, craft show, or from a small business owner (local or online).</p>
<p>If there is no snow, have a family "snowball" fight with rolled up socks or wadded up scrap paper.</p>	<p>Have each family member write a letter to someone who has had a special impact on their lives.</p>	<p>Go around your community and look at Christmas light displays.</p>	<p>Let the youngest child in your home have the honor of placing Jesus in the crèche in your Nativity scene.</p>	<p>Surprise a neighbor by shoveling their driveway after a snow fall. If there's no snow, surprise them with another act of kindness.</p>
<p>Make and deliver treats to neighbors.</p>	<p>Go Christmas caroling.</p>	<p>Free Space</p> 	<p>Give Jesus a birthday gift this year by giving a gift to someone in need.</p>	<p>Use a Jesse Tree to help prepare for Christmas:</p> <p>www.feelslikehomeblog.com/ebooks/jesse-tree/ (free download)</p>
<p>Watch a Christmas themed movie together as a family.</p>	<p>Use an Advent wreath in your home. Here is an Advent wreath craft to try: catholicicing.com/advent-wreath-craft-for-kids/</p>	<p>Make at least one handmade gift to give this year (can be individually or as a whole family effort).</p>	<p>Host a cookie swap or cookie decorating party with family and/or friends.</p>	<p>Have a family night at the end of December to talk about family and personal goals for next year.</p>
<p>Make a new, hand-made tree ornament. Need ideas? Here's a fun handprint one:</p> <p>hsclassroom.net/handprint-snowman-ornament/</p>	<p>Learn to say Merry Christmas in a few languages.</p>	<p>Do something to make someone else's holiday season better this year.</p>	<p>Read at least one book a week that talks about a Christmas tradition in another country.</p>	<p>Celebrate St. Nicholas Day (Dec 6th) by putting small gifts and candy in your children's shoes.</p>