

1. **HAVE A COOKIE EXCHANGE PARTY.** Every guest brings their favorite holiday cookie to share with the rest of the party guests. Guest eat cookies and take some home. Bring recipes to exchange too.
2. **GO CHRISTMAS CAROLING.** Bring along hot chocolate and spread Christmas cheer to all your neighbors!
3. **ELF ON THE SHELF.** Each day your kids will look for Santa's little helper and see what silly antics he has been up to.
4. **CHECK OUT A LOCAL LIGHT DISPLAY.** Check local listings or our Facebook page for local favorites. You can even stay in your car and drive through them if it is too cold outside.
5. **PICK OUT A NEW ORNAMENT FOR EACH CHILD.** Kids loves hanging their own special ornament on the tree every year
6. **ANGEL TREE.** Many department stores have an angel tree where they give information about a child in need. Purchase presents for the "angel" you choose from the tree.
7. **DONATE FOOD TO YOUR LOCAL FOOD BANK.** Food banks are very busy this time a year and are always in need. Donate non-perishable items to Second Chance food pantry.
8. **MAKE CHRISTMAS CANDY.** Give all your neighbors a special treat!
9. **WRITE LETTERS TO SANTA.** Let each child write a letter to Santa and mail it off to the North Pole!
10. **HAVE A GINGERBREAD HOUSE MAKING CONTEST.** Buy a kit from your local store or use graham crackers, frosting and candies.
11. **GO TO A CHRISTMAS CONCERT.** Most cities have special concerts during the holiday season, and many of them are free! Bring your family to hear the beautiful songs of the Christmas season.
12. **WATCH A CHRISTMAS MOVIE.** How the Grinch Stole Christmas is a good one.
13. **MAKE A COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS CHAIN.** Let the kids cut strips of paper and hook them together to create a countdown chain. Take turns taking a ring off of the chain each day.
14. **MAKE SOME HOLIDAY FUDGE.** And share it with your postman, mayor, police, local employers, etc.
15. **HAVE A CHRISTMAS CAMPFIRE.** Make a fire in the fireplace and share your favorite Christmas memories.
16. **HAVE AN ORNAMENT EXCHANGE.** Get together and bring an ornament to exchange. You will have quite the collection in years to come!
17. **HAVE A "CRAZY DINNER".** Go to the store and give each child \$3-\$5 to spend on any food they want. Come home and prepare all the food and eat by candlelight.
18. **MAKE SOME HOMEMADE CRAFTS.** Share with family and friends.
19. **DECORATE CHRISTMAS SUGAR COOKIES.** Let the kids decorate the cookies with frosting and candy!
20. **BRING/BUY DINNER TO/FOR A LESS FORTUNATE FAMILY.** Take a turkey dinner to a family in need.
21. **VISIT SANTA CLAUS.** Kids love being able to visit Santa and tell them what is on their wishlist!
22. **HAVE A CHRISTMAS TALENT SHOW.** Get the family together and each person shares a talent.
23. **HAVE A HOT CHOCOLATE BAR.** Make a big batch of hot chocolate and arrange lots of toppings and treats to flavor your drinks!
24. **READ THE CHRISTMAS STORY AND REMEMBER THE REAL REASON WE CELEBRATE.** You can invite your children to act out the nativity.
25. **HAVE FAMILY GAME NIGHT.** Play games or put a Christmas puzzle together.

