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- 1. Fun activities, toys, trip ideas & videos
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- 4. Special books and art projects for the whole family.
- 5. Tis' the season for baking 'goodies'

**Wonderland Fun!**



**Early December:** Drive around and look at Christmas lights. Check out the local mall and let your child have a visit w/ Santa.

**Getting the perfect tree:** Look for a u-cut tree farm. Lots of them have activities, horse rides, cider/cocoa, etc. You can check for local farms at the link below: [www.christmas-tree.org/](http://www.christmas-tree.org/)

**Holiday Train:** See if you can find any local businesses doing Christmas rides.

**Paint your own Pottery:** Visit a pottery shop and let your child help make some of this year's presents.

**Start your advent calendar:**  
\*This one found at: [www.lillianvernon.com](http://www.lillianvernon.com)



**Boxing Day (The day after Christmas):** Don't be a Grinch. Teach the importance of giving: Have your child help you box up any old clothing and/or toys that they don't need anymore in, and donate to those in need.

**Friends and Family Near & Far:** After Christmas is over, place the Christmas cards you received into a basket and keep it in your child's room. Each night have your child pull a card out of the basket, read it and spend some time talking about that person or family member with your child. If prayers are a part of your child's bedtime routine, this is a good way to include someone special each night.

**New Years Time Capsule:** Sometime before the first of the year spend some time celebrating the year that is ending by creating a time capsule with your family.

*Don't forget some decorations for the little ones.....*



\*Little People Nativity Set: found at: <http://www.amazon.com>

**The Holiday's Finest Flicks!!**

- 1. Baby Santa (Einstein collection)
- 2. Little People Christmas
- 3. Thomas' Christmas
- 4. Veggie Tales: The Toy That Saved Christmas
- 5. Disney's: Mickey's Magical Christmas
- 6. Be My Valentine Charlie Brown

**Winter on the ~web~**

<http://www.rockies.net/~spirit/sermons/christmaspage.html> (activities for advent - epiphany)

<http://www.primarygames.com/holidays/valentines/coloring.htm> (valentine coloring pages)

*Curl up with a*



*Good Book!*

- ◆ Merry Christmas Big Hungry Bear
- ◆ Twas the Night Before Christmas
- ◆ Olive the Other Reindeer
- ◆ Love and Kisses
- ◆ Little Miss Spider: A Christmas Wish
- ◆ The 12 Dogs of Christmas

*Handy Holiday Crafts*

**Christmas Tree Kit:**

found at:

[www.orientaltradingcompany.com](http://www.orientaltradingcompany.com)

\*There is a Hand Menorah kit at Oriental Trading Company as well. But either can be made w/out kits.

**Snowmen:**

**Materials:** cardboard tube (toilet roll), cotton wool, construction paper & glue. **Directions:** stick bits of cotton wool onto tube, make ball out of cotton wool & stick on top to make head. Use constr. paper to make eyes, nose & hat.

**Christmas Tree Decor:** Pre-cut card into Christmas shapes eg; trees, stars etc. Have the child decorate with glitter, stickers etc.

**Paper Mache Ornaments:**

Michaels has paper mache ornaments for around \$1 each. Let your child use crayons, markers or paint to decorate them. You could even cut out a photo of your child for 1 side.

**Handmade Wrapping Paper:**

Buy a roll of brown craft paper or even packaging paper & have your child use sponges & paint or holiday stamps to decorate the paper.

**Christmas Tree Bulbs:**

**Materials:** Any size Styrofoam balls, glue, iridescent glitter, paint brush, some ribbon, & Christmas napkins.

**Directions:** You mix Elmer's glue and water until you get a consistency that you can paint w/. Then you cut out the pretty pictures on the Christmas napkins. Small pictures work the best. Hold it on the ball and paint over it w/ the Elmer's glue (kind of like decoupage.) You can then roll them in glitter to make them sparkle. Use ribbon, cord etc pinned to the top to hang them.

**Valentine Chain:** Cut strips of red, white & pink constr. paper (3-4in long) Loop and glue ends together. Make as long as child wants. Use it to decorate doorways & windows

**Valentine Place mat:** Have your child glue his favorite valentines onto a large piece of construction paper or light cardboard. Cover this collage with clear contact paper to make a place mat.

**More winter activities & art projects can be found in:**

The Preschooler's Busy Book, The Toddler's Busy Book, or Family Fun Homemade Holidays (found at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com))

*Visions of Sugarplums...*



**Veggie Holiday Wreath:**

On a serving platter, arrange broccoli crowns in a circle to look like a lush wreath. Use cherry tomatoes for the berries. Serve with dip.

**Dessert Wreaths:**

Mix together Corn Flakes, marshmallows, and green food coloring. Mold onto to wax paper on cookie sheet into a wreath shape (individuals). Use Red Hots or M&M's to decorate.

**Valentine Pretzels:**

Melt white confectioner's candy in the microwave. Add red food coloring a couple drops at a time until you find the shade you like. Let the candy cool slightly but still remain melted. Put down some waxed paper. Pour melted candy into a bowl. Have the child dip the pretzels and place on the waxed paper to harden. (The candy can be re-melted over and over until it's all used.)

**More tasty treats found at:**

<http://www.perpetualpreschool.com/holiday.htm>

