

# 24 DAY COUNTDOWN

## *to Christmas*

### 1. MAKE AN ADVENT PRAYER CHAIN

EACH CHILD CREATES A CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN CHAIN WITH A DIFFERENT PERSON'S NAME ON EACH LINK TO PRAY FOR. HANG THEM AROUND THE HOUSE. EVERY MORNING, TEAR OFF ONE LINK AND PRAY FOR THAT PERSON. (YOU'LL NEED RED AND GREEN CONSTRUCTION PAPER, SCISSORS, AND A STAPLER.)

### 2. BAKE CHRISTMAS COOKIES TOGETHER

### 3. POPCORN + CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

MAKE POPCORN AND WATCH A CHRISTMAS MOVIE (WE LOVE THE STAR).

### 4. DO A CHRISTMAS CRAFT

PICK SOMETHING FUN FROM THE CRAFT AISLE (HOBBY LOBBY IS GREAT!).

### 5. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS RIDE

MAKE HOT CHOCOLATE IN TO-GO CUPS, GET INTO YOUR PAJAMAS, AND GO SEE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TOGETHER. TURN ON CHRISTMAS MUSIC WHILE YOU ADMIRE THE LIGHTS!

### 6. A FIRESIDE CHRISTMAS

MAKE S'MORES BY THE FIRE AND SHARE YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MEMORIES.

### 7. CHRISTMAS CAMPOUT

EVERYONE SLEEPS IN THE LIVING ROOM BY THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

### 8. FAMILY DONUT RUN

HEAD OUT TOGETHER TO PICK YOUR FAVORITE DOUGHNUTS.

### 9. CHRISTMAS CHARADES

PLAY CHARADES AS A FAMILY—BUT EVERY CLUE HAS TO BE CHRISTMAS- OR WINTER-THEMED.

### 10. HOT CHOCOLATE BAR

SET OUT TOPPINGS LIKE MARSHMALLOWS, PEPPERMINT PIECES, AND CANDY CANES.

### 11. CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT

LISTEN TO CHRISTMAS SONGS AS A FAMILY. INCLUDE SOME FUN ONES, AND LET EVERYONE PICK A FAVORITE. MAKE COOKIES TO GO WITH THE FUN!

### 12. SNOWMAN DRAWING CHALLENGE

EVERYONE DRAWS THEIR BEST SNOWMAN WITHOUT SHOWING ANYONE. THE YOUNGEST CHILD GETS TO PICK THE WINNER. DISPLAY THEM ALL ON THE FRIDGE!

13. GINGERBREAD (OR COOKIE) DECORATING NIGHT

14. ENCOURAGEMENT BOX

CHOOSE SOMEONE WHO NEEDS ENCOURAGEMENT AND CREATE A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS BOX TO SEND. EVERYONE CAN DRAW A PICTURE OR WRITE A NOTE TO INCLUDE.

15. SECRET FAMILY GIFT

MAKE OR PICK OUT A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR ONE FAMILY MEMBER, WRAP IT, AND PLACE IT UNDER THE TREE—BUT KEEP YOUR PERSON A SECRET!

16. VISIT A CHRISTMAS TREE FARM

INVITE FRIENDS AND ENJOY THE ACTIVITIES TOGETHER.

17. CHURCH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

ATTEND THE CHRISTMAS SERVICE OR PROGRAM—AND INVITE FRIENDS OR NEIGHBORS TO JOIN YOU.

18. COZY CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

PUT TOGETHER A SNACK TRAY, GRAB COZY BLANKETS, LIGHT SOME CANDLES, AND WATCH A CHRISTMAS MOVIE TOGETHER.

19. WINTER ICE-CREAM ADVENTURE

BUNDLE UP AND GO GET ICE CREAM AS A FAMILY—DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN THE CAR!

20. BIBLE CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

PLAY A FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS TRIVIA GAME. MAKE SURE EVERYONE GETS A CHANCE TO ANSWER. GIVE A SMALL CANDY FOR EACH CORRECT ANSWER (UNREAL CHOCOLATES OR YUM CANDY ARE GREAT OPTIONS!).

21. ACT-IT-OUT NIGHT

HAVE DAD TELL CHRISTMAS STORIES WHILE THE KIDS ACT OUT EVERY PART—BE READY TO LAUGH! SERVE HOT APPLE CIDER FOR EXTRA COZINESS.

22. HALLMARK MOVIE + BROWNIES NIGHT

WATCH A HALLMARK CHRISTMAS MOVIE AND ENJOY WARM BROWNIES (SIMPLE MILLS WORKS GREAT!).

23. INVITE SOMEONE OVER FOR DINNER

FIND AN OLDER COUPLE—OR SOMEONE WHO HAS LOST THEIR SPOUSE—AND INVITE THEM FOR A FAMILY DINNER. PLAY CHRISTMAS MUSIC AND ASK THEM TO SHARE THEIR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MEMORIES.

24. WALK-THROUGH CHRISTMAS LIGHT SHOW

END THE COUNTDOWN WITH A BEAUTIFUL WALK THROUGH A CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY.