December Countdown Calendar

One Christmas activity a day, December 1 to 25.

Day 1
Make the paper chain
☐

Day 2
Sing a Christmas song
☐

Day 3
Read a Christmas story
☐

Day 4
Cut a paper snowflake
☐

Day 5
Bake cookies with a grown-up
☐

Day 6
Decorate the tree
☐

Day 7
Build a snowman outside
☐

Day 8
Drink hot chocolate
☐

Day 9
Make a handprint reindeer
☐

Day 10
Dance to Christmas music
☐

Day 11
Look at Christmas lights
☐

Day 12
Wrap a present
☐

Day 13
String a popcorn garland
☐

Day 14
Play in pretend snow
☐

Day 15
Build a blanket fort
☐

Day 16
Decorate biscuits
☐

Day 17
Sing to grandparents on a call
☐

Day 18
Give away a toy
☐

Day 19
Make a snow globe jar
☐

Day 20
Have a floor picnic
☐

Day 21
Dress up in red and green
☐

Day 22
Sprinkle reindeer food outside
☐

Day 23
Watch a Christmas film
☐

Day 24
Leave milk and cookies out
☐

Day 25
Play with your gifts
☐

HOW THE COUNTDOWN WORKS

Start on December 1. Find today on the calendar, do the activity written there, and tick the little box in its corner. By December 25, every box is ticked and every link is gone.

Paper Chain Countdown

Cut, loop, hang, and tear one link off each morning.

Cut along the edges, loop each link through the last one, and hang the finished chain where small hands can reach it. Every morning, tear off today and do what it says.

Day 1	Make the paper chain	Cut here
Day 2	Sing a Christmas song	Cut here
Day 3	Read a Christmas story	Cut here
Day 4	Cut a paper snowflake	Cut here
Day 5	Bake cookies with a grown-up	Cut here
Day 6	Decorate the tree	Cut here
Day 7	Build a snowman outside	Cut here
Day 8	Drink hot chocolate	Cut here
Day 9	Make a handprint reindeer	Cut here
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Day 11	Look at Christmas lights	Cut here
Day 12	Wrap a present	Cut here
Day 13	String a popcorn garland	Cut here
Day 14	Play in pretend snow	Cut here
Day 15	Build a blanket fort	Cut here
Day 16	Decorate biscuits	Cut here
Day 17	Sing to grandparents on a call	Cut here
Day 18	Give away a toy	Cut here
Day 19	Make a snow globe jar	Cut here
Day 20	Have a floor picnic	Cut here
Day 21	Dress up in red and green	Cut here
Day 22	Sprinkle reindeer food outside	Cut here
Day 23	Watch a Christmas film	Cut here
Day 24	Leave milk and cookies out	Cut here
Day 25	Play with your gifts	Cut here

When the last link comes off on December 25, the chain is gone and Christmas is here.

Grown-Ups Guide

One activity a day, from December 1 to December 25.

How to run the countdown

Cut the chain before December, while the house is still calm. Hang it low enough for small hands to reach. Every morning, one link comes off, and the day written on it gets done. Tick the calendar box at bedtime, so the month fills up where you can see it.

Five tips that keep it fun

1. Keep each day short. Ten minutes of doing together is plenty for a small child.
2. Let small hands tear the link. Tearing it off is the morning ritual, not a chore.
3. Swap days freely. A baking day moves to Saturday, and a quiet day takes its place.
4. Stay in the kitchen for every baking day, from the first stir to the last crumb.
5. No snow outside? Build the snowman from cushions and blankets on the living room floor.

All 25 days at a glance

Day 1	Make the paper chain	☐
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Day 23	Watch a Christmas film	☐
Day 24	Leave milk and cookies out	☐
Day 25	Play with your gifts	☐

These pages give family activity ideas only. They are not medical advice, therapy, or help from a professional.
Free to print for your family or your classroom. Make as many copies as you need.