

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

Join us in the fun holiday tradition of a Countdown to Christmas by doing one activity with your child each day!

			1 Paper Chain Use sheets of construction paper, wrapping paper, or ANY paper to cut into 25 strips. Staple or tape together to create linked chain & hang in your house. Your child can tear off one each day and then count to see how many days left til Christmas!	2 Reading Night Read a Christmas story with your child on your lap. Add a little fun by turning off the lights and reading with a flashlight!	3 PreK Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt *RSVP required by Dec. 1 for Goody Bag pick-up* Text 217-556-0005	4 Decorate your Christmas Tree
5 Talk a Walk Bundle up and take a "4 senses" walk together outside. Notice & talk about what you SEE, SMELL, FEEL, HEAR.	6 Act of Kindness Volunteer to ring the Salvation Army Bell for an hour, OR put some loose change into the Salvation Army pot!	7 Santa's Beard Draw a picture of Santa with a HUGE beard. Write numbers 1-6 all over the beard in several places. Take turns rolling a dice and cover that number using marshmallow, small pieces of paper, or just mark out with a crayon.	8 Reading Wednesday Make a Christmas Bear Cave (blanket fort) & read a book with your child inside!	9 Hide & Seek This never fails to be a kid favorite, but they especially love when their parents join in the fun! If it's a nice day, you can even take it outside!	10 Popcorn & Movie Night Put on comfy jammies & settle in for the night! Watch a children's Christmas movie, like Polar Express or The Grinch.	11 Make Cookies Allow your child to help with counting and helping dump the measured scoops!
12 Playground Bundle up and go to a playground for 30 minutes!	13 Act of Kindness Take a plate of the cookies you made to an elderly neighbor	14 Christmas Tree Sort Use leftover wrapping paper to cut 1" strips of paper into various lengths. Have your child sort them in order of shortest to longest, then glue to a piece of paper to make a Christmas Tree	15 Reading Wednesday Parent: WRAP up a book you already have in Christmas wrapping paper ahead of time for your child to unwrap before reading!	16 What's Missing Take 5 ornaments off of your tree. Lay them on the floor, & name each one (ex. star, tree, angel, snowman, bell). Cover all with a towel & secretly remove 1. Remove towel & see if your child can recall which ornament is missing. Make this harder by hiding 2-3 ornaments, or adding more to the group!	17 Game Night Let your child choose 2-3 of their favorite games & make tonight all about family time! Even better with some popcorn & hot chocolate! (Some great pre-k games are "Uno", "Yahtzee Jr", "The Sneaky, Snacky Squirrel!")	18 Playdough 1 cup flour 1/2 cup salt 1/2 cup water 1 TBSP oil peppermint extract Mix all ingredients together Divide in half & color 1/2 with green food coloring & half with red
19 Snowball Fight Scatter cotton balls or crumpled up paper all over your floor covering a large area. Have your child use tweezers to pick them up and put them into a bucket.	20 Act of Kindness Draw a picture & have your grown-up help you write a special note to a grandparent or family member to give them for Christmas	21 Puzzles Do a simple 25-50 piece puzzle TOGETHER with parent & child. If you don't have any, Dollar Tree has a great selection for \$1!	22 Letter to Santa Write a letter to Santa to leave out for him!	23 Reindeer Food *1 big scoop of oatmeal *4 shakes of cinnamon *2 pinches of glitter	24 Christmas Eve! Read 'Twas The Night Before Christmas by Clement C. Moore (search Google or YouTube for an online version if you don't have a copy!)	25 Merry Christmas!