

alina's advent chain

www.alinasadventuresin homemaking.com

THE ADVENT CHAIN DATES

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Cut out each number leaving a one inch margin of white paper to the right of the number. You will use this margin to attach the number to the fabric.

THE ADVENT CHAIN ACTIVITIES

Dress up like a Who from Whoville and march in a parade.

Bake Christmas cookies for elderly folks in your neighborhood. Drop by their homes and deliver them with a song.

Go caroling at a nursing home or veteran's hospital nearby. Don't pick a place across town- pick a place close to your home.

Go ice skating.

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Make your annual 2012 family tree ornament.

Prepare holiday packages for friends and family around the country.

Mail holiday packages and Christmas cards.

Adopt a tree in your yard or neighborhood. Find a natural way to decorate it.

Prepare a skit from a holiday-themed reader's theatre. There are many available for free online. Record yourself and share it with family.

Pick your favorite Christmas song and create a dance routine for it. Practice until you are ready to perform. Then make a program, get costumed up, and invite family and friends to the premiere performance. Request tips for your favorite charity.

Cook and prepare an 18th century holiday meal. Study history books and stories to discover what that might include. Then dress up in costume, decorate the table, vow to eat by candlelight, and enjoy your historic meal with family.

Make a wreath from twigs and found materials in your backyard or nearby woods.

Memorize a Christmas poem to recite. Then recite it whenever you get the chance.

Make a family holiday CD with adults picking music and kids designing the album cover and song listing. Scan their art, burn the CD, and give it as a gift to family and friends.

Create a gnome woodland holiday scene and invent a story of the gnome's Christmas. Share your story at after dinner by candlelight.

Get out sleeping bags, hot cocoa, and favorite dolls and stuffed animals. Camp out by the Christmas tree and fall asleep to the lull of its flickering lights.

Make recycleable wrapping paper from old newspaper and paints. Have a gift-wrapping extravaganza.

Make plastic bottle ornaments.

Make paper doll ornaments for your tree or mantle.

Make handmade cards for gratitude packs to give as gifts to adults.

Learn to play and sing five Christmas carols on the piano. Travelling repertoire.

Make kid-crafted memory game gifts for cousins.

Make a Christmas alphabet book.

Volunteer at a local soup kitchen.

Create a Christmas mobile from nature.

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Make gift tags! Use fabric scraps, old books, branches, and other found materials.

Have a family movie night and watch a Christmas classic.

Host a neighborhood or family game night and play charades or other games which involve the entire group.

Crash Supper—Plan with another mom ahead of time that you are going to bring dinner and spend the evening with them. The kids will be so excited to surprise their friends!

Go caroling in your neighborhood or to friends and family homes.

Drive around your city and award the top three awards for holiday-spirited home decorations. Leave a ribbon with a note reading 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in their mailboxes and thank them for making your town a more lovely place to live and see.

Decorate your front door and doorsteps for the holidays. Make holiday land art to greet visitors as they arrive or pass by.

Prepare scenery and costumes for family nativity scene. Invite neighbors, friends, and family for your performance.

Stitch and design a Christmas tree skirt for your tree.

Cut, paint, and sand your own wooden nativity scene.

Cut out the activities above and paperclip each one to one of the dates. Set them aside for when you are ready stuff and stitch.