



Christmas Idea Guide

GOAL: Family Fun! Team Building

Liberty Puzzles	Wooden keepsake puzzles. Select Christmas image or upload custom picture. libertypuzzles.com
Homemade Family Games	Each person plays DJ with their favorite songs, great for car trips.
Purchased Games	Apples to Apples, TRAIN domino game, Taboo, Telestrations, Catch Phrase, Mafia, card games.
Saran Ball	Buy gloves and fun dice. Wrap items (gift cards, money, clues for where to find a gift) in saran wrap to and create a ball. Each person puts gloves on and has a turn unwrapping the ball to receive gifts. Another person is rolling the dice. When doubles are rolled, the next person takes a turn unwrapping. Google saran ball game for variations on the idea by age range.
Ornament game/Memory Tree	Have each person on Christmas morning bring an unwrapped ornament to commemorate a memory from their year. Place them all out and give each person a numbered sheet. Have each person write down who the ornament belongs to. The one who guesses the most wins a gift card. Have a tree ready to hang them to create a memory tree.
Gingerbread house contest	Buy matching aprons, have the cookies made (sometimes you can buy sheets of sugar cookies), have icing ready. Can do individually or in teams. Gift for the winner. Designate impartial judges.
Fun Run	Find one or map out your own. Ours is at Thanksgiving at the ranch called "The Wild Turkey Trot".
Theme morning	Matching pajamas, superhero capes, or fun hats. Makes great pictures. Gets everyone engaged.

GOAL: More meaning, less materialism

Serve together	Soup Kitchens – serve together, Angel tree – shop for items together. Go caroling.
Memory gifts	Buy ornaments for the kids that commemorate a milestone in life or an accomplishment. Tie it to a letter of affirmation. Can also serve as a collection for each child.
Heart Gifts	Write an attribute that you consider a gift to you because of that person being in your life.
Picture gifts	Create gifts out of memories: canvases, mugs, calendars, keychains, luggage tags, etc. High quality site : https://www.mpix.com
12 days of Christmas	Play the 12 days of Christmas for a family needing encouragement. Wrap gifts that correspond to the 12 days of Christmas and place at the home of the family in need each night.
Family Bonding	Grab Hot Chocolate, download a Christmas playlist and drive around to see the Christmas lights.
Give money in a fun way	Leave the lists alone and find a creative way to distribute money instead. Put bills in balloons, bake a money tree, place bills in a box of chocolates, make a saran wrap ball (see above), needlepoint a keepsake stocking ornament, or create a scavenger hunt.
Read a book	Grab a meaningful book or short story and have a read aloud by the fire.
Share your own story	Have senior family members share a story from their lives. Have the video camera ready to capture the moment.
Mealtime memories	Create placemats with family pictures. Laminate at Kinkos. Have each person share a favorite holiday memory until everyone has had a turn.
Home Movies	Pull out those family DVD's that have been sitting in the box and have them going in the background.
Plan ahead	Make a list of all the meals, activities and gifts to give and plot it out to make sure you aren't overdoing it. Delegate.
Shop together	Grab a family member to help with some of the tasks. Or, shop with your child or grandchild. Quality time just might be their favorite gift!
Cook together	Spend time one on one while getting the job done. Share a family recipe or try something new.

