

Scan the QR code to watch short videos
and read useful tips to help with all of
these activities!

Visit [wordsforlife.org.uk/advent-calendar](https://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/advent-calendar)



Chat

- 1** **Have fun with water and ice play**
Provide children with containers and waterproof toys - they will create their own play!
- 4** **Sing a winter song!**
Explore our collection of top nursery rhymes for ideas!
- 7** **Make up your own winter song or rhyme**
You don't need to remember the words, you can make up your own songs about anything!
- 10** **Crunchy winter leaves!**
Use your senses to explore just how much fun you can have playing, jumping, and printing with leaves.
- 13** **Wrap your teddies up for a picnic**
What will the teddies talk about over the picnic?
- 16** **Play 'guess the animal' together**
'I'm thinking of an animal who lives in a cold place and is very good at swimming...'
- 19** **Wrap up warm and go for a winter walk**
What signs of winter can you spot?
- 22** **Go out and about on a Christmas colour hunt**
Chat about what you can see: *'I see a dark green holly leaf'*

Play

- 2** **Make a festive decoration**
Use materials that would otherwise be thrown away to keep your child busy and develop their creativity.
- 5** **Make a hedgehog house**
Build a home for hedgehogs out of dry leaves, twigs and newspaper.
- 8** **Paint a winter or Christmas-themed picture**
Support your child's creativity, imagination, thinking skills and coordination - and get them chatting too!
- 11** **Make your own seasonal sock puppet**
Make a puppet with things you already have at home, for example odd socks.
- 14** **Make your own Christmas cards**
Not only is it fun, but whoever receives your child's card will appreciate and cherish your little one's handmade artwork!
- 17** **Make your own binoculars**
You can do this by using cardboard tubes and collecting natural 'treasure'. You could use it to make a collage.
- 20** **Winter playdough**
Follow our simple recipe to make your own playdough.
- 23** **Wrapping fun!**
Use recyclable materials to have fun wrapping/hiding toys and objects - can you guess what's inside?

Read

- 3** **Visit your local library**
Can you find a book or story about the festive season?
- 6** **Make a den and snuggle up for a story**
Make your own cosy den by hanging a blanket over a table and adding cushions.
- 9** **Choose a recipe together and enjoy some winter baking**
What letters or numbers can you spot in the recipe?
- 12** **Find a stick and go on a Stick Man adventure!**
Have you read the Stick Man story? Watch the video online and follow some fun activities.
- 15** **Try some sparkly mark making**
Pour some glitter and salt into a tray and use the end of a pencil or paintbrush to make patterns and shapes.
- 18** **Make up your own seasonal story**
When you're out and about use things around you as ideas to help create a story. You can do this anywhere!
- 21** **Play Christmas 'I spy'**
This could involve letter sounds or be adapted, such as *'I spy something shiny'...*
- 24** **Enjoy a Christmas Eve story and sing Christmas songs together.**
Spend a cosy afternoon singing and reading.