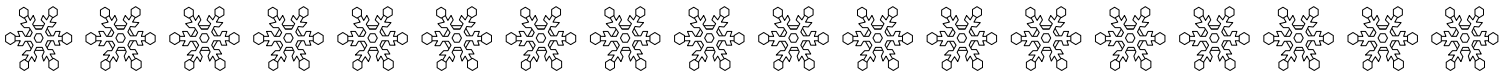




# Ideas for Holiday Activities!



- Create a visual countdown to your family's holiday using construction paper loops or a calendar with pictures.
  - If your son or daughter enjoys repetitive activities, encourage stringing popcorn cereal, or another favorite item that can add to the holiday decorations!
  - Involve your son or daughter with packing a bag of items that are comforting or fun to take to holiday parties, or anywhere that might be different from the normal routine.
  - Involve your children in decorating! Choose a craft project that everyone can participate in, and takes into account your children's interests!
  - Allow your son or daughter to make decisions about what kinds of holiday decorations are hung, and where they go!
  - If your son or daughter has a special interest, incorporate the interest into holiday activities or decorations. For example, ornaments, lights, and napkins come in a variety of themes!
  - If your son or daughter has a favorite movie, create a "movie room" at a holiday party. Celebrate their interest, and encourage family members to do the same!
  - Making holiday cookies with your son or daughter with ASD can be a lot of fun!
  - If your child has an interest in music, have a dance party with lots of fun holiday songs!
  - Read holiday stories and then create your own by taking pictures throughout the holiday season of your family.
  - If you have access to a camcorder or a webcam, create video messages (verbal or just an image) of your child doing one of his/her favorite activities to send to friends and family as a holiday greeting and/or present.
  - Decorate holiday cards, your refrigerator, or door with handprint Menorah's or a Kwanzaa Handprint Wreath. See the back of this sheet for instructions!
- 

## Create a Handprint Menorah



### Materials:

2 clean hands  
favorite color of finger paint, yellow finger paint  
2 heavy duty paper plates  
construction paper  
newspaper

1. Cover your work area with newspaper.
2. Pour your favorite color of finger paint onto the paper plates, and place them side by side.
3. Place the construction paper onto the newspaper.
4. Put one hand in each plate of paint. Carefully lift hands out of paint, and link thumbs so they overlap.
5. Place both hands down on construction paper, with fingers spread to make the Menorah candles.
6. Wash your hands off.
7. Dip thumb in yellow finger paint, then dab a "flame" onto the top of each "Menorah candle"!
8. Share your Menorah with family, friends, or classmates to celebrate the Hanukkah season!

<http://www.torahtots.com/holidays/chanuka/crafts/handprint.htm>

## Create a Kwanzaa Handprint Wreath



### Materials:

Hands  
Glue  
Scissors  
Red, green, and black construction paper

1. Trace hands on the different colors of construction paper to make 12 handprints.
2. Cut out the hands and glue together to form a wreath.
3. If you want, write the names of family members or paste pictures onto the handprints.  
Enjoy the Kwanzaa season!

<http://www.dltk-holidays.com/kwanzaa/mhands.html>