

Stress-Busting Holiday Literacy Tips for Families

While the holidays can be stressful and frantic for families, spending time reading or doing other literacy related activities together is a great reason to turn off the television, cuddle up, and relax. To make reading a part of your holiday traditions, try some of these fun literacy activities.

- Encourage your child to create bookmarks to give as gifts or to mark the place in your own book where you leave off during storybook time.
- Ask your child to help with holiday shopping. Have them write out the list and then read the items aloud as you look through the aisles together.
- Give your child a companion book to traditional holiday gifts, such as a book on juggling and several brightly colored balls; a book about fossils and a fossil creating kit; or a book about stamp collecting and a stamp album.
- When it's time for holiday baking, ask your child to read the directions aloud to you or read them together.
- While the cookies or other holiday treats are in the oven, read a short book together.
- Help your child make their own holiday gifts for family and friends by following the directions in a how-to-book.
- Ask your child to help you write out gift name tags. Use extra-large gift tags for tiny hands.
- Encourage older children to volunteer to read to residents in a local retirement home or hospital to bring some holiday cheer.
- Give a bookstore or online bookstore gift certificate as a holiday present so your child can select a new book on their own. Read the book together.
- Visit the library or book store and pick out some holiday favorites for festive family reading all season long!



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