

You and your child may wonder how to use some of the items in this calendar. Here are some tips and instructions that go with each day's toy. Keep this away from young eyes so they don't get any hints about the surprises coming their way!

You can also find all this information, revealed day-by-day, along with fun surprises, on our site at [PLBFUN.COM/ADVENT](http://WWW.PLBFUN.COM/ADVENT)

Feel free to check it with your kids every day since we'll be updating it every morning in December to show information about that day's toy and extra surprises for kids, like daily holiday advent countdown coloring pages and even some surprises for parents like special deals and savings.

What's Inside the Advent Calendar?

Daily Trivia and Riddles

Inside each door, there is a fun Christmas themed joke or riddle.

Day 1 – Triceratops Dinosaur Figure

Start off the advent season with a fun dinosaur figure.

Day 2 – String and Clasps Magic Trick

The first magic trick!

With this trick, you're going to magically cut the string with the clasp attachment, and magically re-attach it so it's whole again.

How it Works:

Step 1: Insert the string through the clasp device. Make a big show that the string is intact as it goes it.

Step 2: Time to "cut" it. Say some magical incantation words and slide the clasp to the side, revealing the now "cut" piece of string offset from the original. It will look strange to your audience as the middle of the string appears cut!

Step 3: Wave your hand and say some magical words and slide the middle piece back to "mend" the string back to one piece. Alternatively, you can face the windows on the clasp away from your audience and pull out the "cut" string without "mending" it first.

Step 4: Pull the string back out of the clasp mechanism and wow your audience with the string back in one piece!

★ Checkout www.plbfun.com/advent for a video tutorial on how it works.

Day 3 – Race Car

A fun race car for your car collection.

Day 4 – Dice Guessing Magic Trick

A magic trick!

With this one, you'll get someone to choose a number on the dice, which you're going to guess, correctly of course!

How it Works:

Step 1: Get your audience to choose a number on the dice, and place it face up inside the small container. Have the container on a table, and get them to place it inside, and cover it with the small lid (without you seeing it, and without the container lifting from the table)

Step 2: Once the lid is on, you'll grab it and ask the audience member if there's any chance you've seen the chosen number, which they'll answer no.

And, on a personal note before the countdown begins, thank you so much for choosing our advent calendar. We know that Christmas is such a special time for families, and you want to capture that excitement for your child; we are thrilled to be a part of your celebration this year.

If you ever have any questions, comments, concerns or feedback, please reach out to us. If you have photos that you're sharing on social media, please tag us, we're @plbfun and we love seeing kids enjoying our toys.

We wish you all the best this holiday season!

Step 3: You'll need to make up a story whereby you can hold the small container (by the top and bottom edges) and tip the container forward (so the dice slices up against the lid). Here's the trick: if the dice is right up against the lid, you'll be able to see it!

Step 4: Place the small container inside the big one and close the lid, and shake it about, tell a story, magical words, and guess the correct number (since you've already seen it!)

Step 5: Take the small container out of the big one, open its lid and show the audience the correct number showing inside the container!

★ As with all magic tricks, practice, practice, practice!

Day 5 – Color Changing Pen

A pen with a twist! It changes color as you write! Shake well before use.

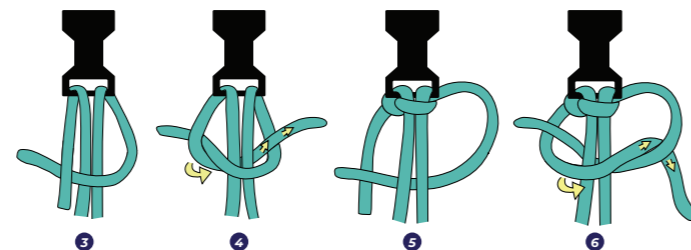
Day 6 – Paracord Bracelet Craft

We recommend you head over to WWW.PLBFUN.COM/INSTRUCTIONS for a detailed video on making paracord bracelets.

The **basic cobra stitch** bracelet is an easy place to start.

- Take a length of paracord and find the middle.
- Do a cow loop though one end of the buckle. (Photo 1)
- Put loose ends of the paracord through the other buckle. Make sure they're facing the same way. (Photo 2)
- At this point, wrap it around your wrist to size the bracelet. Hold the loose ends of the paracord and start knotting. Repeat the steps below until you finish.

1. Right over and under (Photo 3).
2. Left under and through (Photo 4) and tighten.
3. Right under and over (Photo 5).
4. Left over and through (Photo 6) and tighten.
5. Repeat 1-4 until you finish.



★ If you see the bracelet beginning to twist, you've done the same side twice in a row. Go back and re-do it.

Use scissors to trim the excess paracord when you reach the end. Ask an adult to use a lighter to slightly melt the ends of the cut paracord so it doesn't fray.

This is a pretty easy process, but one that's easier to follow on video. Go to WWW.PLBFUN.COM/INSTRUCTIONS for a tutorial.

Day 7 – Scratch and Sniff Stickers

STINKY!!! Scented Stickers! Peel and Stick. Scratch them to release the scent.

★ If your little one likes these scented stickers, we sell a pack with 15 different scents (not stinky like Santa's boots), with fun designs!

Day 8 – 3 Fidget Rings

If you like to fidget, you'll like these three fidget rings. They're super tactile and fun. Just don't wear them on your fingers for too long (they can be a little tight to wear, but tons of fun to feel, stretch and roll!)

Day 9 – Scratch Paper Notes

Your new scratch paper contains a brilliant gold background under the opaque surface. Simply use the enclosed scratcher to scratch away the surface to reveal what's underneath. Draw your own unique art or notes!

How it Works:

- Using the Stylus, Scratch the surface of the paper gently, but firmly enough that your movement removes the top layer.
- Gently wipe away or tap the paper vertically to remove any residue left by your scratches.
- Scratchy Scratch away! Reveal the what's under the coated paper with every stroke of your stylus!

★ We have Scratchy Scratch mini notes available with different colored backgrounds available if you love these. They make an amazing stocking stuffer! We also have full sized paper as notepads, loose paper and even scratch paper with colored surfaces instead of black. We even make gift bags with scratch paper built-in so you don't have to worry about losing your card. So many options for creativity!

Day 10 – ShinkArt Crafts

Use the included pencil crayons to color in the included designs. Color on the rough side of the plastic for best results. When you're ready, get an adult to help shrink it in the oven (the plastic shrinks to about one third of the original size and gets thicker).

HAVE AN ADULT HELP YOU OPERATE THE OVEN!

- Preheat a toaster oven (recommended) or conventional oven to 325° F (165° C).
- Use baking parchment paper or tin foil to line a baking pan. For best results, make sure it's a nice flat, even baking pan.
- Place your film pieces with the colored side up on the lined tray.
- Bake in preheated oven for 30 to 60 seconds, or until the pieces stop shrinking (they will curl up at first, then lay flat again. Once they flatten out, they are done).
- If the pieces don't flatten out on their own, but have stopped shrinking, you can take them out of the oven using oven mitts, and they can be lightly pressed down using a folded paper for about 20 seconds as they cool.

TIP: You only have a few seconds to press them before they start to cool. You can always warm them up again if needed.

- Once it has completely cooled, you can use your shrunk creation with one of the included accessories.
- Use the hole to secure your creation to the chain or clip loop.

Day 11 – Air Dry Clay Christmas Tree Craft

Use the included air-dry clay to make your own Ornament. Unlike the craft from Day 6, this one does not require an oven. Once it is shaped, just leave it out overnight and it will dry and harden naturally. Checkout www.plbfun.com/advent for a video tutorial on how it works.

To create a Christmas Tree, follow these steps:

1. Roll out the clay into a flat shape (you can use a plastic cup or water bottle as a rolling pin).
2. Using your fingers, pinch the clay from the sides to create the various levels of the tree.
3. Use some of the leftover gemstones from yesterday's ShrinkArt crafts to decorate the tree.
4. Insert the little hook at the top.
5. Let it air dry for 24 hours.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOUR PROJECT TURNS OUT FANTASTIC!

- **Plan your design:** Sketch out on paper what you're thinking of making with the air-dry clay, before committing to doing it.
- **Clean Surface:** Work on a smooth, well-cleaned, non-porous surface. A cookie sheet, clean table surface, wax paper, or a plastic tray/lid are all good options. This will keep the clay from picking up any dirt or debris or sticking to the work surface.
- **Small Amount:** Since the clay is made to air-dry, try to only pull out what you need, and leave the rest sealed in the bag, to prevent it drying out. Take out more only as you need it.
- **Feel it:** Working and kneading the clay with your hands is a good practice. It will give you a sense and feel of how the clay works and shapes.
- **Work it:** Knead the clay before shaping it to your creation. This will warm it up and make it easier to work with, and easier to spread and shape.
- **Shape it:** You can use your hands, the included shaping tool, or any other crafting tools and materials you may have on hand, to shape the clay into your desired creation. You can create anything you imagine.

Tip: Try different items to shape the clay; a cup to roll it thin, paper clips for pin holes and shaping lines, ribbons for texture, etc. What else can you think of to use as a tool?

- **Water Rescue:** The clay dries naturally when exposed to air. If your designs aren't sticking very well, use a little water to reactivate the clay, and use it as a "glue" to stick two pieces of clay together. A couple of drops of water will also reactivate and soften the clay. But don't use too much!
- **Drying:** Once you're happy with your creation, let it sit for a few hours (24 is probably ideal) to let the design set, before you use it.

Day 12 – Chain and Ring Magic Trick

Ready to show off your magic skills?

As with any magic trick, you want to practice the trick so that when you perform the trick for someone, it looks easy. This is one of a few tricks that even if you explain what is happening, it is still amazing.

How it Works:

Step 1: Start by holding the chain hanging off your non-dominant hand.

Step 2: With the ring in your dominant hand, bring it onto the loop of the chain that is hanging down (from underneath, so that the chain is entirely within the ring).

