

DECEMBER ♥ 2015



**SRMC** Santa Rosa  
Mothers' Club  
**m a g a z i n e**

# Holiday Cheer





**SRMC** Santa Rosa Mothers' Club

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inside the **Holiday Cheer** issue

**4 From the President: A Foreword**

Happy Holidays

*Suzanne Moore*

**5 The Best Holiday Wish List**

**6-7 Are you Naughty or Nice?**

A Christmas Game

*Katie Mohr*

**8 The Creative Jewish Mom**

Hanukkah Dancing Characters Craft

*Sara Rivka*

**12-15 Calendar of Events**

*Stacey King*

**18 Modern Mama**

Dining with an 8 month year old

*Mary Piasta*

**19 Modern Mama**

Inexpensive Toddler Ornament Craft, Family Heirloom & Christmas Gift

*Mary Piasta*



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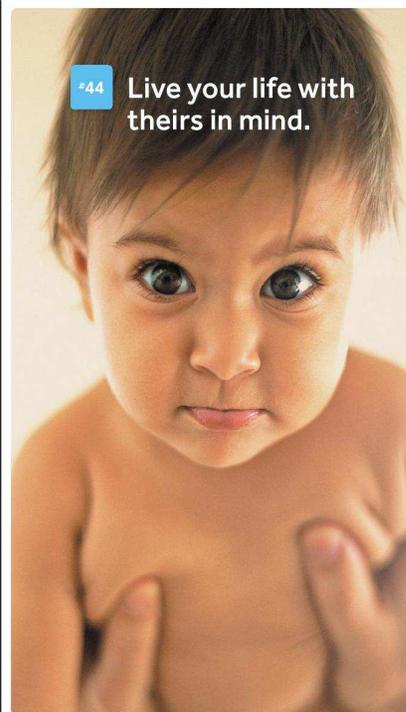
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# Letter from the President: Happy Holidays

By Suzanne Moore

Happy Holidays! know this time of year is extremely busy and hectic, especially with all the shopping, the traditions, and still trying to put family first. I know I have to constantly stop myself and remember to just enjoy the moment. I am learning that my schedule is not always my daughter's schedule.

For example, we finally put up our Christmas decorations inside. This is the first Christmas my husband and I didn't have had to work an insanely amount of overtime - translate— this meant we could do the decorations as a family. I figured it should have taken about three hours, but instead it took about 4 days. At first, I was upset with my husband for not coaching Lorelai when she tore into the ornaments. She kept pulling the tops off and rolling them across the floor like she was bowling. Then she would come back in and rearrange all the decorations that I had on the tree. Finally, it dawned on me that she was just trying to do what I was doing. It brought back memories of my dad and me attempting to assemble presents/toys on Christmas day. Even, if we got it wrong, (which we did because we would try without reading the instructions) it was time well spent with each other. Once I realized this, everything was more enjoyable. "Okay, Lorelai, make sure you test that one. Where do you want to hang this one? Don't lick the glitter...are you hungry? Okay, let's stop for dinner."

Please remember to enjoy the moments this holiday season. Here are some suggestions that were submitted to help you create some of those "moments":

- Play indoor bowling.
- Have your kids take a bubble bath in the middle of the day. We just used an organic "bath bomb" from Lush and she loved it!
- Color on big pieces of paper and then put stickers on them and hang them above where your child plays.
- Eat lunch under the dining room table.
- You could make cards with their handprints on, or let them go wild on some newspaper and save it for wrapping paper for gifts.

- Bake a rainy day cake/ make cookies or muffins just for fun and then have a tea party.
- Put some of your favorite music on and dance around.
- Practice your forward rolls, but only on the living room floor.
- Get a kid's yoga book from the library, and be a tree, or a cat, or a downward facing dog.
- Practice writing or drawing with pudding or shaving cream, depending on if they will stick fingers in their mouth, on a high chair tray or other plastic something. We used to clean our desks at school at the end of the year with shaving cream, and everyone would draw cool pictures etc.
- Take your child on a "magic carpet" ride throughout your house by having them sit on a heavy blanket that you pull or drag through your house (warning: they will love it and you will be physically exhausted) .

- Suzanne



Did you know we now have a private SRMC Facebook page?

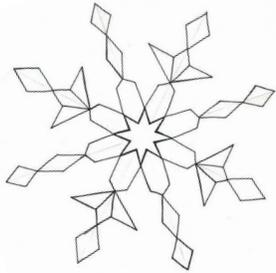
This social networking site is making it even easier for SRMC moms to connect and share. Check your email for the invite to join.



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# The Best Holiday WISH LIST



Something to wear: \_\_\_\_\_

Something to read: \_\_\_\_\_

Something you want: \_\_\_\_\_

Something you need: \_\_\_\_\_

Something to give: \_\_\_\_\_

*This List belongs to:*

\_\_\_\_\_



## Housekeeping

Opinions expressed in this issue are those of the contributors. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute endorsement by SRMC of any products or services. The editor reserves the right to accept, edit, or reject any content submitted to the magazine.

**ADVERTISING:** Advertisements are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

For submission information, email [advertising@santarosamothersclub.org](mailto:advertising@santarosamothersclub.org)

**THIS ISSUE MADE POSSIBLE BY:** lots of coffee; crazy work schedule; insomnia; and a lot of teamwork!

**COMING NEXT: January:** Playing the Numbers Game - Reconciling expectations and changing priorities. **February:** Sex and Love

Have an idea for an issue theme or article? Please email [editor@santarosamothersclub.org](mailto:editor@santarosamothersclub.org)



## Naughty or Nice Christmas Game

The Naughty or Nice Christmas Game is perfect for a large group and everyone will be laughing. Start your Christmas tradition!

Every year, my side of the family does a Christmas party. This is my very favorite Christmas party because we all get together to eat, have a lesson, play games, have a white

elephant gift exchange and exchange gifts. The entire event is full of laughter and fun.

This year I was put in charge of the game. That is a lot of pressure when you have nearly 50 people participating of all ages! The game needed be something that we could do in about 20 minutes, but also involved everyone. The Are You Naughty or Nice Christmas Game worked out perfectly.

First let me show you how I put it together and then I will explain how it works. The inspiration for this game came from the Price is Right and the Punch Board game. There are a lot of cylinders with a tissue paper covering, you punch through the tissue paper and pull out what is inside, and hopefully win a lot of money or a car or something like that.

In my version, no cars are won, but it was still a lot of fun.

Supplies Needed – Links are to similar items found online.

- 2 Foam Core Boards
- Red Plastic Cups
- Red Vinyl
- Small Treats and Goodies
- Small Plastic Bugs & Coal Chocolate
- Tissue Paper
- Rubber Bands

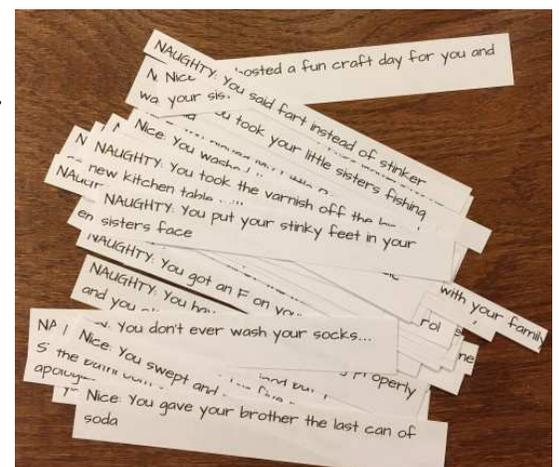


It all starts out with two foam core boards that I got at my local dollar store. Depending on how many people you have that will be playing, you may only need one board. I cut the Naughty or Nice title out on my Cameo using red vinyl.

I used red plastic cups as the cylinders and simply hot glued the base of them to my foam core board. I found I could fit 25 cups per board.

Now we need something fun to put inside.

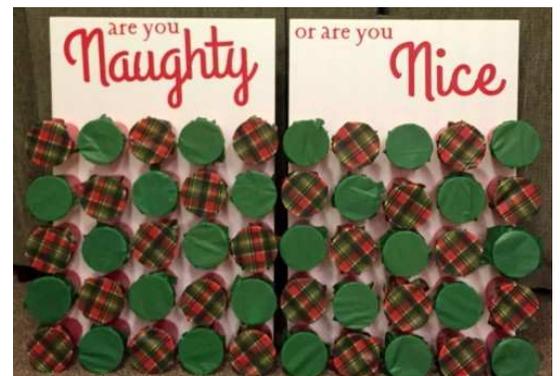
I created 50 different slips of paper to put inside. 15 were Naughty and 35 were Nice and each gave an explanation of why they were naughty or nice. Here are all of the little slips of paper. See pages 16 and 17 of the SRMC magazine for a list to use.



I got several little treats and goodies to put in the cups with the Naughty or Nice. Fun things for Nice and bugs and candy coal for Naughty.



Here is what one of the Naughty cups looked like before it was covered. I added a mini candy cane to every cup so everyone got a little Christmas Cheer.



To cover the cups I took some festive green and plaid tissue paper and lots of rubber bands. I cut squares of the tissue paper into about 4x4 inch squares, laid a piece on top of a cup and then put a rubber band over it to hold it in place.

To play the game, I explained this was to help Santa decide if you were Naughty or Nice. Everyone took a turn coming up to the board, punching through the tissue paper, pull out what was inside and read the slip of paper aloud.

Every seemed to have a lot of fun and it was so fun to who was naughty and who was nice!



While this version of the game is a Christmas game I think it could easily be adapted to fit any theme of party. It really is great for a large crowd and a range of ages.

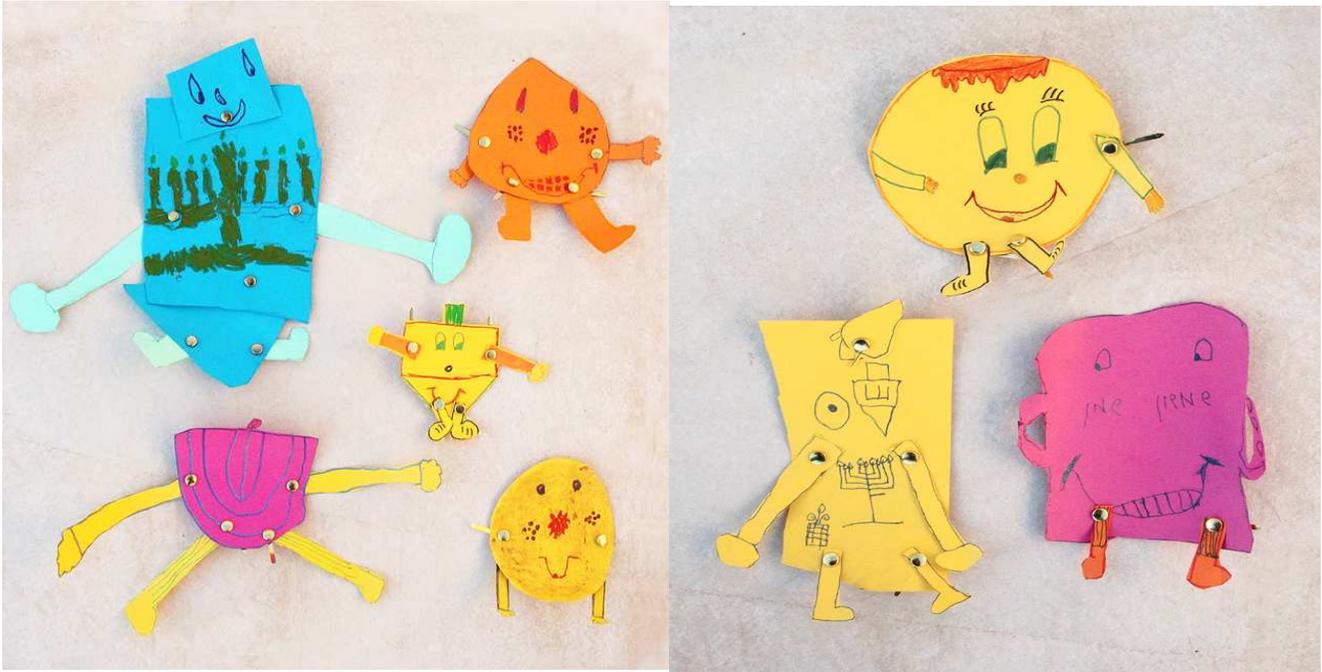
*Katie*



# *the creative jewish mom*

By Sara Rivka

## **Hanukkah Dancing Characters Craft For Kids**



Here's a super cute idea to add some cheer to your home this Chanukah— dancing dreidels, doughnuts, menorahs, candles and oil flasks! You only need a few simple supplies and everyone can have fun creating their own dancing characters. We'll most likely be hanging these garland style, which we have yet to assemble, but they're much easier to photograph at this stage! In any case I figured I'd share this with you now, as it's time to get crafting my friends— Chanukah is in just a little over a week! Yikes, why did I have to mention that?

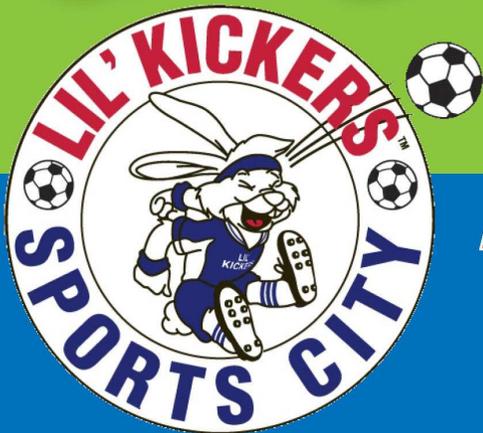
### **You'll Need:**

- colorful card stock
- paper fasteners
- a hole punch
- pens and markers
- a little imagination!

**How To:** Draw the body and arms and legs separately on the colored paper of your choice. Add details with felt pens, cut out, punch holes where needed, and attach arms and legs and heads (where needed) with paper fasteners. If you're in need of some big decorations, so make some of these in which the body fills the entire letter sized sheet, the bigger the better! Enjoy!

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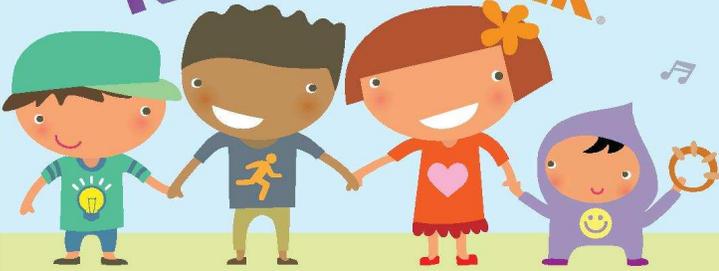


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# SRMC Calendar of Events: December 2015

## Tuesday, December 01

### 10:00am **Petaluma Holiday Lights Tour**

Enjoy a self-guided tour of beautifully decorated homes and businesses in Petaluma. Maps available at the Petaluma Visitors Center and electronically by Dec. 1st.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 10:00am **City of Lights Petaluma Holiday Driving Tour**

Enjoy a self-guided tour of beautifully decorated homes and businesses in Petaluma. Maps available at the Petaluma Visitors Center and electronically by Dec. 1st.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 6:30pm **Lightwire Theater's A Very Electric Christmas**

A Very Electric Christmas—a unique glow-in-the-dark presentation—follows the story of a young bird named Max and his family as they head south for the winter.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: Recommended for ages 6 and up**

## Thursday, December 03

### 11:00am **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition. Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 5:00pm to 6:30pm **Montgomery Village Light up a Life**

FREE Tree lighting ceremony to celebrate the lives of those we have lost. Celebrate with the community by creating an ornament to honor a loved one. Live Music. Refreshments will be served.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 7:30pm **Mary Poppins Musical presented by the Santa Rosa Junior College**

The Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Theatre Arts Department presents a theatrical adaptation of the classic novel and film Mary Poppins, under the direction of Laura Downing-Lee.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 6 years and above**

## Friday, December 04

### 11:00am **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition. Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 5:00pm to 8:00pm **San Francisco Zoo Lights: The Tradition Continues**

Zoo Lights returns to the San Francisco Zoo and Gardens! Come enjoy the Zoo under twinkling lights and experience the wonder of the holiday season.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 5:00pm to 7:00pm **Windsor Charlie Brown Christ-**

### **mas Tree Grove Family Friday**

The Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove in the Windsor Town Green opens on December 3! This year they are hosting "Family Fridays" featuring live music, kids crafts, mulled cider and treats, special guests, movie night, and of course all the beautifully decorated Christmas Trees!

**Location: Windsor Ages: All ages**

### 7:00pm **Petaluma "Light Up A Life" Tree Lighting Ceremony**

Hospice of Petaluma hosts this annual community celebration of remembrance. In a short tree lighting ceremony, the three evergreen trees in Center Park are illuminated by thousands of lights to symbolize the lives, hopes and dreams of the community.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 7:30pm **Mary Poppins Musical presented by the Santa Rosa Junior College**

The Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Theatre Arts Department presents a theatrical adaptation of the classic novel and film Mary Poppins, under the direction of Laura Downing-Lee.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 6 years and above**

### 7:30pm **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**

The whole family will enjoy our Young Rep's holiday musical. Everyone's favorite flying car comes to life in this Broadway musical. It's based on the beloved film version of a children's book by Ian Fleming and features an unforgettable score by the Sherman Brothers (Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book, Winnie the Pooh). You are sure to find this magical musical "Truly Scrumptious."

**Location: Petaluma Ages: No age specified**

### 8:00pm **It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

**Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 8:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### 8:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

Live, holiday theater at the 6th Street Playhouse. Based on the classic tale A Christmas Carol.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: No age specified**

## Saturday, December 05

### 9:00am to 12:00pm **Home Depot Kids Workshop: Holiday Stacking Blocks**

Monthly Home Depot event for kids.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: Ages 5-12**

### 10:00am to 12:00pm **Michael's Kids Club: Clothespin Characters**

Drop-in arts & crafts for kids at Michael's

**Location: Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Napa Ages: Ages 3 and up**

### 11:00am to 4:00pm **Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during

the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 11:00am to 5:00pm **Downtown Petaluma Merchants' Holiday Open House**

Enjoy holiday festivities, horse & carriage rides, balloon artist and treats at various merchant open houses. See the Petaluma Downtown website for participating merchants and see what they have to offer!

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 11:30am to 1:30pm **Kidgits Breakfast with Santa**

Monthly Kidgits event at the mall

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 1:00pm **Nightmare Before Christmas**

A ballet inspired by Tim Burton's Nightmare Before Christmas! Live performance from local dancers.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### 1:00pm **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition. Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 1:00pm to 4:00pm **Building Gingerbread Houses at Michael's**

Assemble an adorable gingerbread house and try to resist the temptation to snack on your building supplies!

**Location: Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Napa Ages: Ages 3 and up**

### 1:00pm to 4:00pm **Hands-On Hanukkah - At Fundemonium!**

Join us at Fundemonium Toy and Hobby Store for Hands-On Hanukkah, a multi-activity Hanukkah-themed event for families with young children. Decorate a Hanukkah-themed marshmallow dreidel; get your picture taken with Danny the Dreidel; and color your own placemat featuring Elmo and friends!

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### 1:30pm **Mary Poppins Musical presented by the Santa Rosa Junior College**

The Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Theatre Arts Department presents a theatrical adaptation of the classic novel and film Mary Poppins, under the direction of Laura Downing-Lee.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 6 years and above**

### 2:00pm to 5:00pm **Holiday Cookie Exchange Party at Sonoma Spice Queen**

Please bring a dozen or more homemade cookies and receive a box to fill and take home. You must bring cookies to take cookies. 2-5pm; We will have complimentary beverages all day.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**

The whole family will enjoy our Young Rep's holiday musical. Everyone's favorite flying car comes to life in this Broadway musical. It's based on the beloved film version of a children's book by Ian Fleming and features an unforgettable score by the Sherman Brothers (Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book, Winnie the Pooh). You are sure to find this magical musical "Truly Scrumptious."

**Location: Petaluma Ages: No age specified**

### 6:00pm to 8:00pm **Theater Square Tree Lighting Festival**

Featuring live music by Twice as Good, Santa Claus, souvenir photo booth, live snowfall, elves, and more! 6-8pm; Tree lighting and snowfall will begin at 6:30 pm.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 6:00pm **Holiday Lighted Boat Parade**

Watch a flotilla of illuminated boats make a dramatic arrival at the Petaluma River Turning Basin. Festive vessels sail from the Petaluma Marina at 6pm and arrive in the Turning Basin at approximately 6:30pm.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 7:00pm **The Night Before Christmas**

Watch as Christmas Eve comes to life, while dancers perform ballet, Jazz and Hip-Hop to classical and contemporary music. Delight in the array of Holly, Peppermints, Santa's Elves, and Christmas Toys – all in original costumes!

**Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

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**Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 8:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but more-over it's blazing theatricality.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 8:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### **Sunday, December 06**

#### 10:30am to 1:00pm **Holiday on the Farm**

Join Victoria's Fashion Stable for Holiday on the Farm! There will be Pony rides, nativity petting zoo and apple cider.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### 11:00am to 4:00pm **Historic Railroad Square Car-**

#### **riage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### 1:30pm **Mary Poppins Musical presented by the Santa Rosa Junior College**

The Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Theatre Arts Department presents a theatrical adaptation of the classic novel and film Mary Poppins, under the direction of Laura Downing-Lee.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 6 years and above**

#### 2:00pm **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition.

Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

#### 2:00pm **It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

**Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### 2:00pm **The Night Before Christmas**

Watch as Christmas Eve comes to life, while dancers perform ballet, Jazz and Hip-Hop to classical and contemporary music. Delight in the array of Holly, Peppermints, Santa's Elves, and Christmas Toys – all in original costumes!

**Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### 2:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but more-over it's blazing theatricality.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### 2:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

#### 2:00pm **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**

The whole family will enjoy our Young Rep's holiday musical. Everyone's favorite flying car comes to life in this Broadway musical. It's based on the beloved film version of a children's book by Ian Fleming and features an unforgettable score by the Sherman Brothers (Mary Poppins, The Jungle Book, Winnie the Pooh). You are sure to find this magical musical "Truly Scrumptious."

**Location: Petaluma Ages: No age specified**

#### 2:30pm **Chanukah at the River**

Join us for the first annual Grand Menorah Lighting at the Petaluma River! Mega-Nine-Foot Menorah!!! Latkes, Donuts, and Chocolate "gelt"! Chanukah Craft, Music, Grand Raffle!

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### 4:00pm to 6:00pm **Montgomery Village Light up a Life**

Celebrate Chanukah at Montgomery Village. Featuring latkes, live music, activities, prizes, and special guest the Mayor.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### 5:00pm **Heritage Homes Holiday Parlor Tour**

A self-guided tour offers a peek into four historic homes lavishly decorated for the holidays. \$15; Free to children 12 & under if accompanied by adult.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### **Monday, December 07**

#### 10:00am to 12:00pm **Museum Mondays for Little Ones**

Join us every Monday for story time, movement games, and arts and crafts.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 1-5 years, big siblings too.**

#### 10:00am to 2:00pm **Hands-On Hanukkah - At Charles Schulz Museum!**

Join us at the Schulz Museum for Hands-On Hanukkah, a multi-activity Hanukkah-themed event for families with young children. Decorate a Hanukkah-themed marshmallow dreidel; get your picture taken with Danny the Dreidel; and color your own placemat featuring Elmo and friends!

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **Tuesday, December 08**

#### 10:30am **Benedettville Storytime at Copperfield's**

Jen and Gio will regale you and your kids with stories and songs. They'll be rocking the kids' section somewhere between The Rainbow Fairies and Harold and the Purple Crayon.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### **Friday, December 11**

#### 9:00am to 12:00pm **FREE Car Seat Fitting Stations**

Is your child properly secured in their car seat? Should they be in a booster seat? We are here to help!

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### 5:00pm to 8:00pm **San Francisco Zoo Lights: The Tradition Continues**

Zoo Lights returns to the San Francisco Zoo and Gardens! Come enjoy the Zoo under twinkling lights and experience the wonder of the holiday season.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

#### 5:00pm to 7:00pm **Windsor Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove Family Friday**

The Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove in the Windsor Town Green opens on December 3! This year they are hosting "Family Fridays" featuring live music, kids crafts, mulled cider and treats, special guests, movie night, and of course all the beautifully decorated Christmas Trees!

**Location: Windsor Ages: All ages**

# SRMC Calendar of Events: December 2015

## Friday, December 11—continued

### 7:00pm **Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

**Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 7:30pm **Readers Theatre Christmas Show**

A Christmas Memory by Truman Capote with A Child's Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas. An ensemble of local readers, writers and actors perform this poignant autobiographical story which beautifully describes a period in the lives of the seven-year-old narrator and an elderly woman, his cousin and best friend. A benefit for Petaluma Arts Center.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 8:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

Live, holiday theater at the 6th Street Playhouse. Based on the classic tale A Christmas Carol.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: No age specified**

### 8:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

## Saturday, December 12

### 10:00am **Lowe's Build and Grow Clinic: Holiday Train**

Monthly event for kids at Lowe's Home Improvement Center

**Location: Cotati Ages: All ages**

### 10:00am to 12:00pm **Michael's Kids Club: Perler® Santa Belt Coaster**

Drop-in arts & crafts for kids at Michael's

**Location: Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Napa Ages: Ages 3 and up**

### 11:00am **Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

**Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 11:00am to 4:00pm **Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 1:00pm **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition. Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but moreover it's blazing theatricality.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### 4:00pm **Festival of Christmas**

Enjoy Christmas music performed by the Celebration Choir, Casa Grande Concert Choir, Kenilworth Jr. High band, Petaluma Jr. High band, children's crafts and games, living nativity, tea room, food court and more.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 4:30pm **Holly Jolly Holiday Fundraiser at Spreckels Theater**

Join the Spreckels Theatre Company as we celebrate together for an evening of laughter, fun, food and movies! Double feature of Elf and White Christmas.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### 5:00pm to 8:00pm

### **Petaluma Holiday Caroling**

A community caroling event this holiday season. Song sheets will be available for our stroll around downtown Petaluma. Everyone is invited to join in!

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 8:00pm **It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

**Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

## Sunday, December 13

### 10:00am to 5:00pm **Marine Science Sunday at the Marine Mammal Center: Seal and Sea Lion Superstars of 2015**

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month for Marine Science Sunday - a FREE engaging ocean-inspired classroom series from our education experts.

**Location: Sausalito Ages: All ages**

### 10:00am to 1:00pm **Community Stone Soup at the Windsor Farmer's Market**

This Sunday is Community Stone Soup, Kidz Dig It Holiday Cookie Decorating.

**Location: Windsor Ages: 3-12 years**

### 10:15am to 11:00am **Tutu-A-Gogo Storytime Event: Rapunzel**

Special event hosted by Tutu-A-Gogo and Amazing Fairytale Parties

**Location: Windsor Ages: All ages**

### 11:00am to 4:00pm **Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered

FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 1:00pm **A Cozy Afternoon with Santa and James K**

Ornament making with Miss Sharen; Complimentary holiday cookies and cozy hot chocolate; Santa photo op.

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **ODC/Dance presents The Velveteen Rabbit**

Join us for this beloved Bay Area holiday tradition. Told through music, dance and a powerful narrative, The Velveteen Rabbit celebrates the unique relationship between a little boy and his stuffed rabbit, and the enduring power of love.

**Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

**Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 2:00pm **Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

**Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

### 2:00pm **A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but moreover it's blazing theatricality.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### 2:00pm **Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

**Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 1-5 years, big siblings too.**

## Monday, December 14

10:00am to 12:00pm

### **Museum Mondays for Little Ones**

Join us every Monday for story time, movement games, and arts and crafts.

**Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 1-5 years, big siblings too.**

## Tuesday, December 15

### 7:30pm **Petaluma Chorale Holiday Concert**

A great way for you and your family to enjoy some wonderful holiday music. We will be performing an exciting genres including classical, gospel, pop, jazz, and of course, holiday music!

**Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages.**

### **Friday, December 18**

#### **5:00pm to 8:00pm San Francisco Zoo Lights: The Tradition Continues**

Zoo Lights returns to the San Francisco Zoo and Gardens! Come enjoy the Zoo under twinkling lights and experience the wonder of the holiday season.

#### **Location: San Francisco Ages: All ages**

#### **5:00pm to 9:00pm Kids Night at the Schulz Museum**

Have a Parent's night out and drop your kids off at the Schulz Museum for after-hours fun. Kids will have the Museum all to themselves for pizza dinner, games, art, cartooning, and crafts.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 10 years and younger**

#### **5:00pm to 7:00pm Windsor Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove Family Friday**

The Charlie Brown Christmas Tree Grove in the Windsor Town Green opens on December 3! This year they are hosting "Family Fridays" featuring live music, kids crafts, mulled cider and treats, special guests, movie night, and of course all the beautifully decorated Christmas Trees!

#### **Location: Windsor Ages: All ages**

#### **7:00pm Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

#### **Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### **8:00pm A Christmas Carol**

Live, holiday theater at the 6th Street Playhouse. Based on the classic tale A Christmas Carol.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: No age specified**

#### **8:00pm Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

#### **Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### **Saturday, December 19**

10:00am to 1:00pm

#### **Holiday Gift Making at the Schulz Museum**

Make a variety of hand-made holiday gifts including braided fleece scarves, snowball soap, and several special ornaments.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: Grades 1-6**

#### **10:00am to 4:00pm Santa Fly-In**

Santa Claus will be flying in on a REACH Air Medical Services helicopter at around 10:30 AM. This free event is open to the public, and will feature free bags of goodies for the kids, a chance for kids to whisper their holiday wishes in Santa's ear, jumpees, and more.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **11:00am Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

#### **Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### **11:00am to 4:00pm Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during

the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **1:00pm Cirque de Boheme: A Winter Circus at Cornerstone Sonoma**

An old style circus based on the French tradition of the 1920's, Le Cirque de Bohème will transport you into a magical world filled with enchantment, adventure and wonder.

#### **Location: Sonoma Ages: No age specified**

#### **2:00pm to 5:00pm Decorate your own Snoopy at the Schulz Museum**

Decorate a small Snoopy plush to take home. Create your own Belle or Flying Ace, princess or pirate. Design and clothe a unique Snoopy to cuddle and treasure.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: Grades 1-6**

#### **2:00pm A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but more-over it's blazing theatricality.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **3:00pm Petaluma Chorale Holiday Concert**

A great way for you and your family to enjoy some wonderful holiday music. We will be performing an exciting genres including classical, gospel, pop, jazz, and of course, holiday music!

#### **Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

#### **8:00pm It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

#### **Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### **8:00pm Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

#### **Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### **Sunday, December 20**

#### **10:30am to 11:30am Tutu-A-Gogo Storytime**

#### **Event: Cinderella, Belle & the Little Mermaid**

Special event hosted by Tutu-A-Gogo and Amazing Fairytale Parties

#### **Location: Windsor Ages: All ages**

#### **11:00am to 4:00pm Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **1:00pm Cirque de Boheme: A Winter Circus at Cornerstone Sonoma**

An old style circus based on the French tradition of the 1920's, Le Cirque de Bohème will transport you into a magical world filled with enchantment,

adventure and wonder.

#### **Location: Sonoma Ages: No age specified**

#### **2:00pm It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play**

An affectionate live radio version of the holiday classic It's a Wonderful Life

#### **Location: Windsor Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### **2:00pm Winnie the Pooh Christmas Tale**

Winnie the Pooh and gang star in this holiday adventure for the whole family!

#### **Location: Healdsburg Ages: Recommended for All Ages**

#### **2:00pm A Christmas Carol**

This riveting, serious, funny and ultimately joyous new stage version of the story banks on Dickens' original story's beauty and durability, but more-over it's blazing theatricality.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **2:00pm Little Women - the Musical, presented by Spreckels Theatre Company**

Timeless lessons for modern life are the foundation of "Little Women - The Musical," in this holiday presentation where Louisa May Alcott's classic story comes to life with music.

#### **Location: Rohnert Park Ages: All ages**

### **Monday, December 21**

#### **10:00am to 12:00pm Museum Mondays for Little Ones**

Join us every Monday for story time, movement games, and arts and crafts.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: 1-5 years, big siblings too.**

### **Tuesday, December 22**

#### **10:30am Benedettville Storytime at Copperfield's**

Jen and Gio will regale you and your kids with stories and songs. They'll be rocking the kids' section somewhere between The Rainbow Fairies and Harold and the Purple Crayon.

#### **Location: Petaluma Ages: All ages**

### **Thursday, December 24**

#### **11:00am to 3:00pm Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

For 27 years now Railroad Square has offered FREE carriage rides around Railroad Square during the holiday season. Do your shopping locally this year, grab a hot cocoa and go on a soothing and beautiful tour around our quaint little neighborhood!

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

### **Saturday, December 26**

#### **10:00am Sensory Sensitive Films present "The Good Dinosaur"**

A movie with no previews or ads, lights up, sound turned down. For sensitive kids.

#### **Location: Santa Rosa Ages: All ages**

#### **1:00pm Cirque de Boheme: A Winter Circus at Cornerstone Sonoma**

An old style circus .

#### **Location: Sonoma Ages: No age specified**

## Naughty or Nice Christmas Game - From Pages 6 & 7

NAUGHTY: You haven't been showering properly and you stink!

NAUGHTY: You have a dirty mouth

NAUGHTY: You drank all of the milk and put the empty container back in the fridge

NAUGHTY: You made your baby sister eat a dime

NAUGHTY: You snuck out when you should have been sleeping

NAUGHTY: You hit a girl

NAUGHTY: You yelled at your mom

NAUGHTY: You shot your sister with an airsoft gun, in the face

NAUGHTY: You put your stinky feet in your sisters face

NAUGHTY: You said fart instead of stinker

NAUGHTY: You don't ever wash your socks... STINKY!

NAUGHTY: You took the varnish off the brand new kitchen table with nail polish remove

NAUGHTY: You didn't put away all your legos and someone stepped on them

NAUGHTY: You got an F on your math quiz

NAUGHTY: You fed your peas to the dog

Nice: You helped your sister do her hair

Nice: You cleaned the bathroom

Nice: You made your parent's bed

Nice: You made brownies for everyone to share

Nice: You took a plate of cookies to the neighbors

Nice: You gave your sister the remote control

Nice: You gave your sister the remote control

Nice: You did the dishes without being asked

Nice: You painted your sister's nails

Nice: You made dinner

Nice: You watched the neighbor's gold fish while they were out of town

Nice: You picked up the dog doo doo out of the yard

Nice: You pulled the weeds out of the garden

Nice: You read a story to your little brother

Nice: You gave the cat a bath

Nice: You broke your sisters ipod but you apologized and helped her buy a new one

Nice: You gave your sister five more minutes in the bathroom without yelling at her

Nice: You believe in Santa

Nice: You folded ALL of the laundry

Nice: You swept and mopped the floor

Nice: You gave your brother the last can of soda

Nice: You made your parents breakfast in bed

Nice: You mowed the neighbors lawn for FREE

Nice: You let your sister eat the last cookie

Nice: You play a board game and you DON'T CHEAT!

Nice: You kept your room clean for a whole week!

Nice: You sang Christmas carols with your family

Nice: You ate all of your vegetables

Nice: You vacuumed the stairs

Nice: You washed the windows

Nice: You played My Little Pony with two little girls

Nice: You didn't tell your sister's boyfriend he was bald

Nice: You took your little sisters fishing

Nice: You hosted a fun craft day for you and your sisters

Nice: You fixed your brother's motorcycle

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Modern Mama is just a mom who loves her boys, Robert Vaughn “Bobby” and Constantine Joseph “CJ”. Introducing them to new foods, experiences, and places is my daily joy! As I join them in their journey, I’ll share an idea or two along the way. Of course, there are the mommy musings too.

By Mary Piasta

## Dining with An Eight Month Old

While it is easy to enjoy a nice meal with a sleeping baby, once that sleeping baby awakens things change. Months later the previously sleeping baby turns into an active monkey who can enjoy real food. The challenge becomes being able to feed the happy active baby while also eating something yourself.

For the longest time, my husband, Tony and I would take turns appeasing CJ. Then, we appeased hungry monkey by putting him on the table in a Bumbo. It worked for about two months. Now he can bust out of the Bumbo, but he still wants to be part of the action.

The quandary became how to entertain CJ while also enjoying a meal. After loads of trial and error, pulled tablecloths, spilled glasses, and plates tossed on the floor, I finally figured it out. I followed his cue – and stopped feeding CJ off of a plate. I discovered something heavy and bulky to put in its stead. A cutting board! After all, a wooden cutting board is too heavy for him to toss on the floor or otherwise mess with. It goes right on the tablecloth and acts like an anchor for his food. CJ feels like a part of the family dinner (and eats more too).

Now, we can literally dine together without worrying about dishes being dropped on the floor or tablecloths being pulled from their place. At least not CJ doing that, my 3 year old is another story.



## Inexpensive Toddler Ornament Craft, Family Heirloom & Christmas Gift

The other day, Bobby and I decorated our tree. Amongst the nut-crackers, silver balls and bells, there were special ornaments to hang. These glass snowballs were made by Bobby's handprints from past years. He was so excited to learn that he made these treasured ornaments. Now, everyday he goes to admire those ornaments. He points to them with such pride and says "i did it." This year we'll be making some for CJ too.

These little ornaments also make treasured family heirlooms and affordable gifts. For us, we'll be making these same ornaments every year.



With a few supplies you can make them too! My color scheme is white and silver. So, I bought clear glass ball ornaments and decorated them with little sparkly white handprints. You can also do the same thing with other glass ornaments – red, silver, etc. Just think of a color scheme you want through the years.

All you need are paintable glass ornaments (I get mine from JoAnn's Fabrics & Crafts), acrylic paint, a sponge paintbrush and DecoArt Glamour Dust. Before starting make sure your little one is wearing clothes that you don't mind being decorated with paint, get your supplies ready, and go!

- Squeeze acrylic paint onto a paper plate or something.
- Then apply paint to your child's hand with the sponge paintbrush.
- Help them carefully wrap their hand around the glass ball.
- Repeat for as many times as you want ornaments.
- Go wash your child's hands immediately – acrylic paint comes off with soap and water.
- After tot is all clean then sprinkle the Glamour Dust on Ornaments.
- Let the ornaments dry for a few days.
- Then use a Sharpe Pen to write initials and the year.
- Enjoy, treasure and share your creation.

Happy crafting!





Are you a Sonoma County mom?

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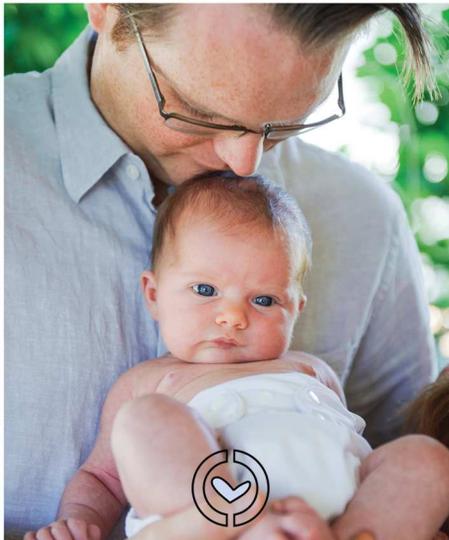
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