

**King Street Family Resource . . .**  
**Helping to keep Safety**  
**at the top of Your family's Christmas Wish List!**

**Tree Decorating Safety Tips:**

- 1<sup>st</sup>**- Make sure your tree is secure so it cannot be pulled or knocked over.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>**- Indoor, CSA certified lights and extension cords. Check for frayed wiring and cracked/ broken bulbs.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>**-Get hooked on safety! Metal hooks are dangerous for small children and pets. Ribbon makes a much safer hanger- plus it's pretty too!
- 4<sup>th</sup>**-Ornaments! Put away any that are small, breakable or have small parts for your child's safety. (If they fit inside of a paper towel tube they are a choking hazard!) This is a great excuse to have a fun child-friendly tree with lots of homemade ornaments!
- 5<sup>th</sup>**- unplug the tree before going to bed and when you are leaving the house. Don't forget to plug outlet safety covers back in!

**Please note:**

Children, and pets too, love to explore under the tree. Please help keep them safe by Not using:

- Tinsel (choking hazard), Angel hair (spun-glass), fake snow and tree preservatives (both contain chemicals that are harmful if swallowed)
- Keeping gifts containing perfumes, colognes, breakables, and small objects out of reach.

**When Decorating Your Home:**

- Real Holly and Mistletoe are poisonous & candles are dangerous.
- Garland, lights & cords should be hung out of children's reach.
- Do not put extension cords under rugs or across doorways.
- When making room for the tree, never place furniture in front of a window- children can climb on this and fall through.

**Holiday Hustle & Bustle Reminders . . .**

- Pick up *all* wrappings and packaging to help prevent possible choking hazards and slips and falls. Tie a knot in the middle of plastic bags.
- Pick up any leftover foods or drinks so children will not be tempted to explore the next day. Planning ahead makes for a less stressful and happier Holiday!
- Additional safety tips and information can be found at [www.childsafetylink.ca](http://www.childsafetylink.ca) or by calling 1-866-288-1388

### **Gifts for Children:**

- Make sure gifts match the child's age and ability level (Rings and necklaces and toys with small pieces, long string/cords, are not safe choices for young children)
- Food: please keep in mind food allergies and age-appropriateness (younger children shouldn't be given: popcorn, hard candy or nuts)
- Toys with magnets should be avoided
- Make sure any batteries are secure

**King Street Family Resource . . .**  
**helping to create fond family memories!**

### **Make Homemade Decorations!**

A piece of cloth, some felt, paint and glue can make for a beautiful tree skirt or home made place mats! (Table clothes are not recommended with young children as they can be pulled off during a meal creating burns- so homemade place mats are not only a great memory-maker but they are safe too!)

### **JOY**

Spread Some Holiday Cheer!

Take the Family and visit a local Nursing Home, Manor or neighbour.  
"Sometimes the gift of a little time can be the best gift of all."

### **Peppermint Play Dough!**

2 cups flour  
1 cup salt  
3 teaspoon cream of tartar  
Mix together and add in:  
1 cup boiling water  
3 tablespoon vegetable oil  
1 tablespoon peppermint extract

Mix together and knead! Enjoy this way . . . or divide dough in half & add red food coloring to one half. Make play dough candy canes! Let dry and you can use them for tree ornaments!

## **Children's Christmas Parties!**

Christmas parties will be at our Toddle~N~Tumble Playgroups the week of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>:

- Monday 10 -12: King Street Centre
- Tuesday 10:30 – 12:00: Sherose Island
- Wednesday 10:30 – 12:00: Lockeport Library!

### **Weather permitting**

If school is cancelled due to weather that day parties are cancelled too.

### **We also have to offer:**

- Baby Groups
- Parent Support Programs
- Free Children's Clothing Exchange
- Breast Pump Lending Program
- Info on Car Seat Safety & Home Safety

Please drop in or give us a call!

## **Christmas carols and tree decorating!**

Put on some Christmas Carols and decorate your child-friendly Christmas Tree!  
Don't forget to use pretty ribbon (or dental floss) for hangers instead of metal hooks!

### **Feed the Reindeer!**

On Christmas Eve, when leaving milk and cookies out for Santa don't forget to sprinkle some magic reindeer food or leave out a carrot or two!

### **Bake some Holiday Treats!**

Little ones love to help and show others what they have made!  
Don't worry if things do not look perfect just remember . . .  
"Everything tastes better when it is made with love."

### **Letters to Santa!**

Santa's Elves & the Postage Bear will collect letters during the Shelburne Parade of Lights! Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
or you can mail them to Santa at:  
Santa Claus, North Pole, Ho Ho Ho  
No postage necessary!  
Please be sure to Include Child's Name & Return Address

### **Santa Advent Calendar!**

Children can color Santa then mark off each day of December until Christmas!  
Children: cross off a number daily, cover with a sticker or glue/tape a cotton ball on to make Santa's beard nice and fluffy!

### **More fun ideas!**

Bundle up and go for a family walk to enjoy all of the lights and displays in your neighbourhood.

Warm up with some Snowman Soup when you get home and cozy up for a Family Movie Night.

**Wishing your family a safe & festive Holiday Season**  
**from the staff of King Street Family Resource**

35 King Street, PO BOX 532 Shelburne NS  
875-3256

[www.southshorefamilyresource.org](http://www.southshorefamilyresource.org)

**Please join us on FACEBOOK!**