

30 WAYS TO CELEBRATE

National Adoption Awareness Month

NOVEMBER 2014



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<p>1 Organize a holiday toy drive for children waiting for permanent families. Involve your child's class, team, or Scout group.</p>
						<p>2 Create a scrapbook with your child. Talk about significant events as you record them together. Get started with tips at adoptivefamilies.com/category/talking-about-adoption/adoption-lifebooks-scrapbooks.</p>
<p>9 Start a tradition of taking a family photo every year on the same day. Share your shot with fellow AF members at adoptivefamiliescircle.com/photos. Send a copy to your child's birth parents.</p>	<p>10 Talk to someone who is considering adoption. Tell them about the highs, the lows, the unforgettable moments. Tell them why you'd do it all over again! Buy them a membership to adoptivefamilies.com.</p>	<p>11 Print the handout "8 Myths and Realities About Adoption" from adoptivefamilies.com/free-downloads. Distribute it in your community, school, and place of worship.</p>	<p>12 As you snap great seasonal shots during November and December, upload them to our 2014 Holiday Photo Contest at adoptivefamiliescircle.com.</p>	<p>13 Print "Accurate Adoption Language" from adoptivefamilies.com/free-downloads, and send it to your local newspaper.</p>	<p>14 Find an adult adoptee or a person of color—a coach, a teacher, or a babysitter—who can serve as a mentor for your child. Arrange for them to get together monthly.</p>	<p>15 Invite local adoptive families over for hot chocolate and cookies. Announce the event in your community newspaper.</p>
<p>16 Spend an afternoon celebrating your child's heritage through activities and a meal you prepare as a family. Choose a dish to include in your holiday menu.</p>	<p>17 Encourage your child to contribute a portion of his allowance to an organization that works in orphanages or with local foster families.</p>	<p>18 Give an adoption talk at school. Find parents' presentation notes for educating their kids' classmates in preschool through middle school at adoptivefamilies.com/category/adoption-parenting/adoption-at-school.</p>	<p>19 Develop a family ritual to show thanks for your family and the special way you've found one another. Browse adoptivefamilies.com/category/adoption-parenting/adoptive-family-holidays-celebrations for ideas.</p>	<p>20 Send a thank-you note to your child's teacher for allowing you to share adoption information. Send a copy to the principal.</p>	<p>21 Shop with meaning this holiday season by purchasing gifts that give back to adoption or children's charities. See our "Gifts That Give Back" board at pinterest.com/adoptioncircle.</p>	<p>22 NATIONAL ADOPTION DAY! Courts across the country will finalize thousands of adoptions today. See nationaladoptionday.org for more information.</p>
<p>23 Make holiday crafts that honor your child's heritage.</p>	<p>24 Learn how to celebrate La Navidad, Kwanzaa, Russian Christmas, and Chinese New Year at adoptivefamilies.com/category/adoption-parenting/adoptive-family-holidays-celebrations.</p>	<p>25 Become an adoption advocate and speak out year round. Download AF's quick guide at adoptivefamilies.com/free-downloads.</p>	<p>26 Write a thank-you letter to the judge, social worker, or other professional who made your adoption happen.</p>	<p>27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</p>	<p>28 Connect with other adoptive families or hopeful parents-to-be in the groups on adoptivefamiliescircle.com. Chime in with your experiences and support.</p>	<p>29 Make a donation in your child's or his birth mother's name to an adoption-related charity or organization.</p>