

CONNECTING WITH KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

SNOWBALL COOKIES

Ingredients:

- 1 c. butter or margarine
- ½ c. sugar, powdered and sifted
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 ½ c. flour, sifted
- ¼ tsp. salt
- ¾ c. chopped pecans

Preparation:

Cream butter in large bowl. Add sugar to the butter or margarine until it is light. Add a tsp of vanilla and stir the mixture. Sift the flour well and add salt and nuts to the mixture. Mix well. Once the above two steps are done, shape the mixture into balls. Place the balls on unbuttered cookie sheet. Bake them for about 15 minutes at 350 deg. Once baked, roll the balls in powdered sugar and roll again in powdered sugar when cool.

PAPER PLATE SANTA

What you will need:

- Miniature paper plate
(approx. 7" diameter)
- Flesh colored crayon
- White, red, and pink construction paper
- Small scrap of flesh colored felt
- Black fine tip marker
- Scissors
- White craft glue
- 18-20 cotton balls



1. Turn paper plate upside down.
2. Color center of plate with flesh colored crayon.
3. Cut a simple cone shaped Santa hat from red construction paper. Make sure the base of the hat is wide enough to cover the width of the plate. Glue hat in place,

covering about one inch of the flesh-colored center circle.

4. Cut a hat brim from the white construction paper; round the center if you like. Glue over the bottom strip of the red hat.
5. Cut two circles, about the size of a quarter, out of pink construction paper. Glue one on each side of the center of the peach circle.
6. Cut a small half moon from the flesh colored felt, about ¾ in. wide, for the nose and glue to the center of the flesh colored circle between two pink cheek circles.
7. Pipe white glue around the sides and bottom of the plate and press cotton balls onto the glue to form the beard.
8. Add glue to the tip of the hat and add a cotton ball.
9. Use a black marker to add a smile and eyes.

TEACHING KIDS TO GIVE AT CHRISTMAS

Not everyone is able to have a Christmas dinner or give three or four presents at Christmas. As a family, make it a tradition to create a Christmas basket of food to donate to the local food bank or to support a charity that provides new presents for kids in the community. Encourage the kids to help with creating the shopping list, buying the items and taking them to the charity. Some families also volunteer at Christmas time to help out in the community, be it the food pantry or even just visiting a nearby seniors' home.

