

Parties Original

By VIRGINIA COLE

The Christmas season is the perfect time for entertaining for your children. This may sound like too much, what with all the hustle and bustle of shopping and holiday preparations. It really is not if you make it simple and make it fall in line with the general seasonal activities.

For instance, children any age would enjoy inviting neighborhood friends in for a cookie-decorating party. The day before, mother bakes a batch of sugar and a batch of ginger cookies in the traditional Christmas shapes.

JUST BEFORE the children are to arrive, she makes a double batch of confectioners sugar frosting, dividing it into several custard cups and then coloring each cupful a different color.

Utensils might include pop-suckle sticks for spreading, pointed skewers for lining, and plenty of the colored and silvered and cinnamon candies, raisins and even peanuts.

LET THEM TAKE the cookies which they have decorated home with them.

When baking the cookies, if you have made a hole in the top of each by placing a small piece of soda straw in the dough, the children can hang the cookies on the Christmas tree.

Another simple way to have a children's party is to simply pop corn, purchase cranberries, have plenty of white string and a darning needle for each.

Invite them to string garlands for their tree. For each of these parties, all you need to serve is punch or pop.

If you feel you simply haven't time for any preparation for a party, then have an outdoor activity. A Fox and Geese game is excellent to entertain a goodly number of children with loads of fun.

CHOOSE a day when there is plenty of untrampled snow in the yard. When the children come, have them follow behind you while you shuffle through the snow in a very large circle.

Then lead them directly across the center of it, then round the circle to the center of the half and across the circle again, thus quartering it. In the center, stamp out a small circle about a yard in diameter for "Home."

To play the game, all children except one, the "Fox" who takes his place in center, get on the circle, any place they wish. Fox then attempts to tag someone by running only on the circle or across tracks. Whoever he tags becomes "Fox." Any player may rest a minute in "Home" when tired. Following the game, bring them in for hot chocolate and cookies.

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MEMBERS OF THE NEWLY organized Meadow Lake branch of Woman's National Farm and Garden Association gathered last week in the home of Mrs. H. J. Copeland, 6779 Creatway, Bloomfield township, to make Christmas wreaths for the children's wards at Pontiac General hospital, and also to execute home decorations. Displaying items they fashioned for use in their own homes are (left to right) Mrs. Arthur Danahy, vice president; Mrs. Copeland; Mrs. Joseph T. LaPlant, secretary; Mrs. Clyde Fulton, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Willard Robinson, treasurer, and the group's president, Mrs. Wilfred R. Dierlamm.

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