

Crystal Ball

With the New Year comes a time of reflection and a time to look ahead. This year, create one tradition that includes both. Gather the family and make gazing into a figurative crystal ball a central part of your New Year's Eve festivities.

This year, create a tradition that includes the entire family and make gazing into a figurative crystal ball a central part of your New Year's Eve festivities. Together, decorate a cardboard box with markers, photos, and stickers (let your inner-scrapbooking skills shine thru and get creative). Then each family member comes up with one question about the next 12 months—this is a great way to get the whole family thinking about the year ahead. For example,

- How will Bobby do in school this year?
- What will be the top news story of the year?
- What will be Sally's favorite activity in camp this summer?
- How will John's Little League team do this year?
- What personal goal will each family member achieve?

Once the topics are set, everyone writes down one prediction for each of the questions--keeping his or her answers secret from everyone else--and deposits the list into the box. After all the questions and predicted answers are in the box tape it shut and store it in a special place until next New Year's Eve.

If you do this annually you'll have last year's box to break open as the second part of this celebration. The group takes turns reading aloud. See which predictions have come true and which are just plain silly. This is a great way to remember the year that has just past and get excited about the year ahead at the same time.

Materials

- Cardboard box
- Pictures
- Markers
- Stickers
- Pens and paper
- Glue Stick
- Packing Tape