



I love everything about Christmas but the thing I love the most is the bright colors and the decorations. I usually start bugging my dad to put up Christmas lights the day after Thanksgiving. Every year my family goes to the Wickard Farms in Wildomar, California to chop down our own Christmas tree. Then, we have a Christmas tree decorating party with hot chocolate and Christmas carols. But, this year was different. My school decided to sponsor poor children for Christmas. I told my mom that I wanted to sponsor two little girls from the "Giving tree" but my mom said we couldn't afford to sponsor two. She asked me what I would be willing to give up to have enough money to sponsor the second girl. I told her that I wouldn't get a Christmas tree this year and we would use the money to buy the little girl presents. I had a lot of fun buying her a new doll and a stroller and a stocking full of goodies. On the Friday before Christmas I got to go with my dad to deliver the presents to the poor children. The little girl who I sponsored lived in a room with her mom and two sisters. They didn't have a Christmas tree either. When we got home, I couldn't believe what I was seeing. A huge, freshly cut Christmas tree was sitting on my front porch with a note attached to it. My dad brought the tree in and instantly my house smelled like Christmas. It was the best Christmas tree I ever had. I think this year I will start saving my money all year long to sponsor a child off the tree. That way I won't have to ever give up my Christmas tree again.



By Claire Shappie Age 10