The Mykidstime Best Ever Party Guide
Brought to you in association with thebigparty.ie
At [www.thebigparty.ie](http://www.thebigparty.ie) we know how kids just love to party and also how important it is for families to celebrate those ‘special occasions’. Our range of decorations, balloons, tableware and party games should get any party started and ensure you have a really ‘special occasion’.

Our commitment to our customers

- Fastest & cheapest delivery
- Great value everyday
- Best range available from any shop or website in Ireland
- Always putting the customer first – see our customer reviews

You don’t need to look anywhere else when planning your next party!

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The Mykidstime
Best Ever Party Guide

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Stress-free Communion Party Planning Tips from thebigparty.ie

Are you planning a Communion party? With 15 years in the party business, thebigparty.ie share their tips for stress-free Communion party planning, and offer some thoughts and ideas that will make planning your party a little bit easier!

First Holy Communion is a great celebration for your child, it only happens once and will always be remembered. The church ceremony is usually reserved for immediate family, grandparents and godparents, but after the ceremony, a First Holy Communion party at home is a great way to include your extended family and friends in this special day.

1 Start Party Planning Early
As soon as you have your date, you should start your planning, particularly if there are a lot of children making First Holy Communion on the same day in your area. If you decide to use outside caterers, then these will need to be booked well in advance. A check list and a budget is usually the best idea. The items to consider and budget for would include:

- Number of guests – close family or for the bigger event friends, family, classmates
- Catering – buffet or sit down meal? Will you cook / get party catered.
- Invitations
- Decorations
- Entertainment and activities
- Photography
- Communion party favours

Budgeting is key to all the above decisions. Putting yourself under financial pressure is not necessary when the objective is giving your child and family a day to remember.

Don’t forget this is an event that must cater for all ages and everyone should have a day to enjoy and remember.

2 The Food
- Get caterers for your main dish - ask friends for recommendations and book early, so you can relax and enjoy the day.
- If you are a great cook and want to cater yourself keep it simple.
- Ask for help and do as much as you can before the day. You could ask family or friends to bring desserts/salads. Don’t be afraid to ask if one of them would come to the house while you are at the church to help get the food set up, as you will have your hands full getting yourself and your child ready on the morning.

3 Tableware & Decorations
For a truly stress-free day, why not use disposable tableware? thebigparty.ie have a lovely range of Communion tableware, including plates, cups and table runners, with colour options for your special boy or girl. They also have a range of disposable glassware, which are perfect if weather allows you to be outdoors, or you just don’t want the hassle of washing-up.

If you are wondering how to best decorate the house, check out thebigparty.ie for their Communion Blessings - in Blue and Pink - they contain all you need for your child’s special day, from themed tableware and napkins, to banner, balloons and favour boxes. And of course, the all important Thank You cards.

4 BackUp Plans for Irish Weather!
It may be the Summer, but the weather is not always nice! If you are relying on the Irish weather make sure you have a Gazebo or covered area for people, if they will not all fit comfortably in your house.

5 Entertainment
The usual option for activities is a bouncy castle however, this has been a bit overdone in recent years, plus it encourages a total separation of kids and adults.

With this in mind, thebigparty.ie have sourced a great range of garden games including toss a can, japlunk, pick-up sticks, lawn darts, compendium of games, jenga tower, snakes and ladders and more. This allows children and adults to have fun together and helps to create some great memories.

6 Have some fun!
A pinata can be great fun and will keep the children, and adults, happy. thebigparty.ie have a lovely range of pinatas online.

Enjoy the party - it’s a special day for you too as the parent!

For all your party needs, with next day nationwide delivery, check out thebigparty.ie
Does your child or your child’s friends have serious allergies? Have you wondered how to manage birthday parties? Anne Walsh from Allergy Lifestyle shares her top tips for managing allergies at parties.

With food allergies on the increase the world over, taking allergies into account when hosting a birthday party is becoming a more frequent challenge.

Whether you are the parent of a food allergic child or you are hosting a party to which an allergic child is attending, with a little bit of communication and planning, everyone should be able to enjoy the party.

As a parent to a child with peanut, egg and sesame allergies (who carries adrenaline in case of emergency), birthday parties always require a bit of extra planning.

Allergic children do not want to be treated differently from their friends. As a parent I really appreciate it when someone goes out of their way to consider her allergies and include her. I believe with good communication and planning it is possible for a fun day for all.

#1. Contact the host
If your child has allergies, contact the person hosting the party when you get the invite so that they can take them into account when planning and shopping. Explain your child’s allergies whether they are food, latex, sting or animal allergies and that you will help wherever needed to make it easier for the host. I offer to stay or remain close by if they are worried and know parents who have sat outside the party in a car so they can be close if anything should happen.

#2. Discuss Food
1. Ask what they are planning to serve, most people are very accommodating and won’t mind being asked. Depending on what suits the host I offer recipes, a list of safe foods available from the supermarket, or to bring food to the party making sure it is similar to what is being served so the child won’t feel excluded.
2. Sometimes the food is safe but the cake may not be so I send a small bun or cupcake as an alternative. If you are providing safe food make sure your child understands not to share food or drinks with other children.
3. Ask the host to keep the wrappers so that on the day of the party you can read ingredient labels for any food served.
4. It’s also important to check sweets and treats that may be left out for the children and to remember that the allergy information for ‘fun size’ sweets may differ from the regular-size bars.
5. Watch out also for guests bringing extra food to the party that has not been checked for allergens.

#3. Discuss Party Bags
Party bags are often handed out at the end of the party with lots of little mini sweets. When my daughter was young I offered to bring safe treats for the party bag, now that she is nine, we have agreed, that she doesn’t eat anything from it until she is home and we check ingredients, swopping any unsafe treats for suitable alternatives. She is happy with that and doesn’t mind as long as she is not missing out. Sometimes allergy information may not be displayed when the sweets come from a bigger pack, so if in doubt throw it out and replace with something safe.

#4. Discuss medication
If your child is prescribed medication such as anti-histamines, adrenaline or inhalers, discuss when and how to use them. If your child has been diagnosed with serious allergies go over the emergency action plan drawn up in consultation with your doctor discussing symptoms and appropriate action. Make sure any medicine is stored safely out of reach of little hands at the party.

#5. Discuss party games and activities
Be aware of triggers in face paints, art and craft materials or bird/animal feed, so check with the host for any planned party games or face painting.

#6. Contact Information
Make sure the person hosting the party has your contact information so if they have any questions during the party they can ring you to check them out and also in case of emergency.

#7. Your child
Teach your child not to share food or drinks. If they are not feeling well teach them to tell an adult immediately and not to go off on their own to a bathroom or bedroom. My daughter also brings a mobile phone with her to all activities and parties so she can contact me too.

#8. Useful products for parties
- Medicine Bag or Adrenaline pen case for adrenaline, antihistamines, inhalers or other medicines
- Emergency Action plan – with symptoms, appropriate action and ICE information
- Allergy Wristband or Medical Jewellery serves as a reminder, can also store ICE info
- Stickers or wristbands – serve as a reminder of your child’s allergies
- Fully charged mobile phone so you can be contacted for any questions or in case of emergency

Follow Allergy Lifestyle on Facebook and Twitter, where they host an on-line community for sharing information and tips.

Disclaimer: This article is not intended nor recommended as a substitute for professional medical advice. Always seek the advice of your physician or other qualified health provider regarding any medical condition or treatment. Never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this article.

For lots of useful products to assist those managing serious allergies, anaphylaxis, hay fever or asthma visit www.allergy Lifestyle.com.
Kids Parties – The Dos & Don’ts

Have you wondered what are the general rules when hosting a kid’s party? Perhaps this is your first party and you are unsure how many to invite, how long should the party be? Check out the Mykidstime Do’s and Don’ts of Kids Parties.

1 How Many

- Don’t feel under pressure to invite everyone in class, just because everyone else is! It can be easy to get caught up in this cycle if other parents have done this, but in reality, parents don’t want their kids going to parties of every random classmate – as well as being time consuming, it’s expensive!
- One general rule of thumb, is to invite only as many children as your child’s age, plus one.

2 Invitations

- Do make sure to add RSVP to invite, so can gauge numbers, and always put contact number on RSVP.
- Help your fellow parents by making the invitation clear on who the party is for (age can help them pick a present), the type of party being given, date, time, and location of the party. If there is a party theme, with dress-up, be sure to let the parents know.
- Don’t send invites in to school, with child, if not inviting whole class. Sometimes, if you don’t want to make it obvious that a select few invited, then invites by text can often be easier for everyone.
- If a parent hasn’t responded, don’t assume their child isn’t coming to your party; plan for their child coming and if you have time give them a quick call or text if you know their number.

3 Presents

- If your child attends many parties, or you have a few children at party-going age, the present cost can significantly add up.
- It’s sometimes good to let parents know they don’t need to buy expensive presents e.g. fiver in card, present for a fiver or support Oxfam Pass the Present. Make this clear on your invitations.

4 How Long Should Party be

- For babies and toddlers up to three years old, a one-hour party.
- For 4 to 7 Year olds, plan on one and a half hours for the party.
- By the time children are eight to eleven years old, they can easily handle a two or 3-hour party.
- Older kids will want to entertain themselves and may ask for an evening party or sleepover.
- Whatever you decide, do let parents know the party end time, so they will be there to collect on time. At that stage, you will be tired, and ready to wave goodbye to all the little darlings!

5 Should You Stay or Go!

Again, this can be a bit of a minefield – if you’re child attending a party, should you stay? Do you want parents to stay, if you are hosting your child’s party?
- Kids up to 4 or 5 will probably need a parent nearby at birthday parties even if they are independent at home. Often kids become overwhelmed by the noise and excitement.
- Over 5’s are likely to be happy to be left at a party if they know at least one of the guests.
- If you are happy for parents to stay or if you prefer them to leave the child and come back let them know, in advance of the party ideally.

6 The Party

- Don’t feel under pressure to provide hot food – timing the party after lunch can ensure kids arrive fed, and all they will need will be some light snacks and cake later. Let the parents know in advance to have their kids fed. In my experience, kids see the whole sitting down to food as just an interruption to the playing.
- Don’t do Party Bags, if you don’t want to provide them. And ensure your own child does not always expect them at parties.
- Do have a plan as to how party will go with timings etc. – amazing how fast the time can go, and before you know it, parents knocking on the door, and you haven’t even done the cake!

Finally, do what feels right for you and your child – there are no rules for the perfect kids party. Kids are easy to please. In my opinion, kids just love to play, have fun and eat some cake!
Birthday parties can be expensive! Are you looking for tips on saving money on kids’ parties? Hosting your son’s birthday party at home can be easily and affordably done, with just a little imagination and effort. Here are 3 ideas for Cheap Birthday Party Ideas for Boys. Generally, hosting the party at home is cheaper, than if you went out to a party venue, provided you are willing to make your own entertainment at home. These ideas for party themes and games should kickstart the imagination, and ensure a memorable day for you and your son. And the price is just the cost of the food, and your time!

#1. Video Game Party

Entertainment

Set up the X-box or the Wii or invite friends to bring their own. Hold a tournament and have the boys play each other for the ultimate championship.

This type of party works best with sports video games or racing games that can be played quickly and give everyone a turn to play the games.

Food

Provide pizza, snacks and cake and ice cream. Set up a table along one side of the room for snacks and let the boys help themselves. Good cake ideas might be a racing car or your son’s favourite character.

Decorating

You could decorate the room to resemble an arcade. Have music playing in the background. Print off pictures of scenes from the games or ask in a game store if they have any old posters they no longer need.

#2. Lego Party

Entertainment

Invite your son’s friends around for a Lego party.

1. Play Lego Pictionary - print out several cards with simple pictures of common objects on them such as a car, a robot, a boat or even some shapes. Ask the kids to choose a card and build that object. Once built, the others must try to guess what they have built.

2. Next, hold a speed building competition where everyone gets 2 or 3 minutes to build a car and then vote on who’s is best.

3. After that pick a LEGO minifigure to compete with.

4. Outside you could hold a LEGO obstacle course. Each player will need their own Lego figurine. An example of a course would be to have the Lego figurine climb through the cardboard tube from an empty roll of kitchen roll. Then ride on a train set from one end of the track to the other. Next he must travel by a Barbie coupe or similar to end of the garden. Once he reaches the end, he just jump onboard a boat and traverse across an inflatable swimming pool. Once safely across he must aboard a spoon and fly to the opposite end of the garden where he will ride in a bucket down a zip line created with rope. Then he will be catapulted in a butterfly net to the finish line. Let the kids compete for the fastest completion time.

Food

For the cake, use mini-bread loaf tins and bake 12 mini loaf cakes. Ice each in the primary Lego colours i.e. red, blue and yellow. Use the same colour M&M’s for the knobs on top of the blocks and pile them up randomly to look like a LEGO pile on a tray.

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Here's 10 Great Birthday Party Themes for Kids


For ideas on how to stage any of these parties (from invites to games to food) read full article here.
12 Birthday Cake Ideas

Looking for ideas for kids birthday cakes? Get some inspiration in our 12 Birthday Cake Ideas that the kids will just love. Many of the recipes would suit the birthday boy or girl, and all have been tried and tested by Mykidstime Mums!

#1. Owl Cake
Inspired by her kids favourite book (Owl Babies), Karen, mum of 2, put together this delicious looking Owl Cake. If you are looking for birthday cake ideas for girls that are a bit different and non-pink, this will hit the mark! Equally suited for your little “prince” also!

#2. Three Little Pigs Cake
Mary Kate shared her fabulous Three Little Pigs Cake. Cake can be made using a loaf mixture/ madeira cake. The ‘brick’ house was chocolate, for the ‘twig’ house we used chocolate fingers and for the ‘straw’ house we used shoelaces. All the decorations including pigs, paths and houses, came from M&S.

#3. Train Cake
We love this Train Cake by Mum of 3 boys, Etain - a true work of cake-art that looks fantastic and has proved to be one of the family’s most popular birthday cakes. Also ideal for birthday parties, as the cake is actually nine individual cakes, which makes it super easy to serve! Could easily suit a birthday boy or girl.

#4. Jellybean Rainbow Cake
Wow! Check out this stunning Jellybean Rainbow Cake from Catriona at Wholesome Ireland. Essentially it’s a victoria sponge recipe based on Delia’s classic, and the key is how you colour and bake the mixture. To keep it simple she flavoured every single layer and the frosting vanilla. You will need time to put this together, but the end result is worth the effort!

#5. Princess Cake
If you are looking for birthday ideas for girls, then this will go down a treat! Katherine, Mum of 2, shared her stunning Princess Cake, that she made for her daughter. Essentially 2 sponge cakes on top of each other, and decorated with a jelly/cream mixture. One barbie-type doll, with legs removed provides the cake topper, and is sure to delight your little princess.

#6. Very Hungry Caterpillar
Most kids are very familiar with the hungry caterpillar book, so this Very Hungry Caterpillar Cake, by Katherine, Mum of 2, would be a winner with boys/girls. Essentially an arrangement of cupcakes, it makes it very easy to serve at a party.
#7. Boxer in a Ring Cake
How cute is this cake?! This Boxer in a Ring Cake, can be made using any square cake as base - sponge cake, madeira cake or even chocolate cake. Or even buy a square shaped ready made cake. Perfect for your little darling’s Birthday Cake!

#8. Pirate Ship Cake
Karen’s fabulous Pirate Ship Cake is another cake made by a parent in our series of Kids Cake Ideas. The idea was adapted by Karen from Birthday Cakes for Kids by Annie Rigg. Perfect for your little pirate’s birthday cake. The base of the cake is a chocolate sponge, which is cut and assembled to resemble a pirate ship.

#9. Mermaid Cake
Another cake for the mermaid fans this time, this unusual Mermaid Cake, by Jill, mum of 2 girls, is sure to be a hit! Cake idea adapted from 30 Minute Kids’ Cakes: Decorate Kids’ Cakes in 30 Minutes or Less by Sara Lewis. The base is madeira cake, which can be bought, or made, and you’ll need some sea shells to decorate the base. So get decorating, and surprise your daughter and her pals!

#10. Tractor Cake
For all those Tractor fans! Etain, Mum of 3 boys, has found her Tractor Cake to be a great standby for kids’ birthday parties. “This was a huge cake and was around for a few days!” The Tractor shaped tin was bought in Lakeland, but you can also make a large rectangular cake, and cut the shape out.

#11. Number Cake
This Number Cake, by Mary Kate, Mum of 2, would work well for boys or girls. She made this using a ‘loaf cake’ mixture but you could just as easily do it using a madeira (or any other) cake that you can buy in any supermarket. You can use any type of baking tin, it just depends on what number you are making. Obviously, round ones are better for some of the numbers, but you could always do a ‘square’ shaped number if all you have is square or rectangle shaped tins!

#12. Spaghetti & Meatballs Cake
Catriona from Wholesome Ireland shares her stunning Spaghetti & Meatballs Cake, inspired by the film “Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs”! It’s the quickest of all her speciality cakes, and looks best presented in a pasta bowl! It’s certainly not a traditional cake but will surely be a winner with kids.
Making party food for kids doesn’t have to be hard — here’s 10 Easy Kids Party Food Recipes.

**#1. Sausages & Sausage Rolls**
Sausages are a popular party food idea. Commercial sausages usually have high fat and salt content, so for a healthier alternative, this homemade sausage recipe is easy to make, and a winner, with children and adults.

If you would prefer sausage rolls, this is a sausage roll recipe that the kids will love — see if you can stop them eating it warm straight from the oven! This recipe uses grated apple/carrot in the mixture, which balances off the salty pork sausage meat.

**#2. Homemade Chicken Goujons**
These Homemade Chicken Goujons recipe by Noelle, Mum of 3, is really quick and so easy that her kids can practically do it themselves. Once you have made these, you’ll never buy goujons again! These are super easy party food too, as can be eaten with fingers, and are a winner with kids of all ages!

**#3. Mini Quiche**
Here’s a mini quiche recipe, by Catriona at Wholesome Ireland that you can use for kids party food or even dinner. Traditional quiche is made with pastry which can be time consuming, so this is made using bread. They are also not as “loose” as traditional quiche, and so tend to be preferred by kids.

**#4. Mini Gourmet Burger**
If you are looking for party food ideas, Clodagh McKenna’s Mini Gourmet Burgers are perfect. The kids are more likely to eat a smaller burger, and these are ideal for picking up in their hands, which is always a plus for kids’ parties!

**#5. Homemade Pizza**
Pizza is a winner at parties with most kids. Why not try your hand at homemade pizzas — this recipe is perfect if going to host a pizza party, where you have bases made beforehand, and let each child then choose their own toppings for their individual pizza. Alternatively, here’s a recipe for Neapolitan Pizza.

**#6. Gingerbread Men**
Gingerbread men are fun to make, decorate and eat! Here is a very easy Gingerbread Men Recipe that you will enjoy making with your kids! These would also be perfect party entertainment, as you could have the gingerbread men pre-made, and then let the kids decorate their own gingerbread men during the party.

**#7. Cupcakes**
There are so many cupcake recipes about, but we love these tried and tested Banana, Cherry & White Chocolate cupcakes which are perfect for kids’ parties. They’re not smothered with frosting, so they’re less messy to eat than a traditional cupcake. Plus they don’t have too much sugar in them, relying on the bananas for sweetness instead. This Best Cupcake Recipe is another favourite, and are perfect for leaving plain, and letting the kids decorate their own at the party — perhaps 2 each (one to eat there, and one to take home).

**#8. Rice Krispies**
Wouldn’t really be a party without Rice Krispie Buns, in my opinion, and they couldn’t really be easier to make! This is the perfect recipe for rice krispie treats that you can change for different seasons and different occasions, and is very easy party food! For something a bit different, try these Krispie Chewies, with mini marshmallows, which the kids will love, and they’re not as messy either, as have no chocolate.

**#9. Lemon Buns**
These Lemon Buns with Lemon Butter Icing are ideal, easy party food. Kids love little buns at parties and these lemon ones go down particularly well, with the delicious lemony icing. Try different food colourings for the icing, to match your party theme perhaps. Check online for cookshops that sell different and unusual colours and toppings.

**#10. More Great Party Food Ideas for Kids**
Here’s 20 Great Party Food Ideas for Kids, as suggested by Mykidstime parents. There are lots of great ideas, from party hedgehogs, to jelly boats to top hats and lots more. You’ll be inspired, and the kids will be thrilled!
Party Ideas for Kids in...

More Venues

• Leisureplex in Stillorgan and Tallaght, offer fantastic birthday party packages. Choose from a range of activities including Bowling and Quasar.
• Imaginosity is a great place to celebrate a child’s birthday party, and they can theme your party for all Fairy Princesses, Superheroes and Little Scientists!
• The Hobby Shack in Wicklow Town is a family run business operated by experienced parents and pre school teachers, set up to provide a unique setting for Children to get creative and artistic. Children can explore the craft packed shelves and choose what they would like to do (parents set a budget to keep the price at a set level).
• Jungle Mania in Kilcoole is a great indoor soft play centre ideal for those winter birthday parties! Suitable for children from 1 to 12 years.
• Tara’s Palace in Powerscourt House, Enniskerry is a unique miniature world of wonder for little girls aged 5 and up. A special location for a special birthday celebration.
• Coral Leisure Arklow are now catering for birthday parties, either in their hall, or pool parties.
• Pirates Village in Liffey Valley & Swords is an adventure play-zone with pirate themed, custom-made inflatable activities for toddlers up to ten year olds. For all your “little mateys” out there, it’s a great option for a swashbuckling birthday party! Children will get 2 hours of play, plus food (McDonalds Happy Meal in Liffey Valley, KFC Meal in Swords) in the Pirates Village Birthday Party Area. Each child will receive an eye patch, and the birthday boy/girl will receive a complimentary pirate costume!
• Kippure Adventure Estate is a great place for all those active 6 to 12 year olds, all in the beautiful surrounds of west Wicklow, just outside Blessington.
• Energy Fun Centre in Rathcoole offer a choice of themes for your party, including Princess, Pirate, Disco and Football. All parties include 2 hours play, 30 mins party in a private room and a party gift for all guests.
• The Little Gym is available for parties packed full of music, movement, games and fun tailored to the childrens age. Your group will have the whole place to yourselves with games, music and fun activities created especially for your birthday kid.
• Giddy Studios provide an ideal venue where all ages can be creative and paint pottery together.
• Head to Hamleys for a birthday party your kids will love.
• Gymboree is a great birthday experience for the younger birthday boys and girls. The party can be in one of their centres or at your home.

Would you like to find more party venues in Wicklow or in Dublin?

Leisureplex in Stillorgan and Tallaght, offer fantastic birthday party packages. Choose from a range of activities including Bowling and Quasar.

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Coral Leisure Arklow are now catering for birthday parties, either in their hall, or pool parties.

Pine Forest Arts Centre, Kilternan, will organise fun art activities for birthday parties held there.

Party Venues

Party Entertainers

Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons. Child friendly stylists will make it a party to remember, with a beautiful glitter upstyle or beaded braids or coloured hair extensions. Also a soft glitter face makeovers with lipgloss and eyeshadow and nails painted with glitter polish finish, or a little flower motif. Soda and snacks are provided. There is also the option of a party bag to take home at half price. Check with your local Kiddies Kuts in Jervis, Tallaght, Blackrock or Carrickmines for their party options.

Genie Mackers (as seen on TV) is a professional, fully insured entertainment business. Our party package gives you everything your child could need for their special day: A Magic Show, Face painting, Balloon Animal Prizes, Karaoke, Puppets, Party Games, Limbo, Parachute Games, Bubbles and more. We can customise the party to suit your needs. You also get to choose from our most popular themes: Magical Genie, Disco Diva, Tooth Fairy, Pirates… and much more!
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

Baby Showers are so popular in Ireland and are a fun and comforting day for the Mum to be. It’s all about celebrating pregnancy and sharing in her excitement and spending precious time together before Baby arrives. Babyshower.ie, Ireland’s leading Baby Shower party supplier, has a huge range of party supplies, gifts, games and Nappy Cakes to choose from. For Top Tips and help on planning the perfect baby shower, contact Niamh - she would be delighted to hear from you.

At thebigparty.ie they know how kids just love to party and also how important it is for families to celebrate those ‘special occasions’. They’ve Ireland’s largest range of themed children’s party supplies and games, and their range of decorations, balloons, tableware and party games should get any party started. With next day nationwide delivery, you don’t need to look elsewhere when planning your next party!

Party Packs is a family run Irish company who supply a wide range of quality products for the perfect party. From 1st Birthday Parties to Princesses and Spiderman to Fireman Sam they can cater for all your party needs which will make organising your child’s birthday much easier. Select your party goods in the comfort of your own home and in your own time, then sit back and wait for the delivery to your door. Party shopping made easy!

Laura’s Stitch ‘n Craft & Cookies ‘n Cupcakes Parties - Looking for something different for your child’s party? Girls and Boys aged 5 to 12 can decorate their own cookies and cupcakes, or do stitch and crafts. All in your own home and all materials provided.

Fit Kids Dublin South offer fun, energetic party entertainment which can be adapted for all ages and abilities.

More party entertainers in Wicklow or Dublin

More Party Supplies

Baby Blitz N Party Pieces is an online party supplies shop that provides fabulous filled party bags to suit any occasion (birthdays, communion, christening etc.) and budget.

Pinatas Pinatas will make Pinatas in any theme, shape or colour to suit your needs – check them out for a really unique addition to the party!

Dress My Party.ie have a beautiful range of funky party decorations for online sale or rental.

HarryAli is an online party parlour! Based in Wicklow, HarryAli aims to the stress away from parents trying to source themed party supplies.

Party in a Box - Another online company that delivers themed party boxes that are suitable for all ages and include everything from the invitations to birthday balloons and banners!

Party Poppers, Arklow, stocks balloons for all occasions and also provides banners, candles and gifts. Now also selling Sky Lanterns!

Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in Wicklow or Dublin.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

Greystones Bouncers - high quality bouncy castles and slide ideas for parties. Also supplying candy floss, pop corn machine and slushies.

Bouncyfun.ie - exciting range of bouncy castles, bounce ‘n’ slide combos, super slides, gladiators, mini bouncers, ball pools, obstacle courses and marquees to suit any occasion.

BounceCrazy - a great range of entertainment options with comprehensive advice on the correct package to suit your individual requirements all with the WOW factor that children are looking for.

See our listings for more Bouncy Castle suppliers in your area.
party ideas for kids in... north dublin

party venues

• Leisureplex in Blanchardstown and Coolock, offer fantastic birthday party packages. Choose from a range of activities including Bowling and Quasar.
• The Little Gym is available for parties packed full of music, movement, games and fun tailored to the childrens age. Each group will have the whole place to yourselves with games, music and fun activities created especially for your birthday kid.

other venues

• The Butlers Chocolate Experience offer a deliciously different party venue, they can even organise the birthday cake for you too!
• Gymboree is a great birthday experience for the younger birthday boys and girls. The party can be in one of their centres or at your home.
• Energy Fun Centre in Rathcoole offer a choice of themes for your party, including Princess, Pirate, Disco and Football. All parties include 2 hours play, 30 mins party in a private room and a party gift for all guests.
Would you like to find more party venues in Dublin?

party entertainers

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Would you like to find more party venues in Dublin?

• Really Grand Events offer a wide range of great fun entertainment from magic, puppets and clowns to their Mad Bingo Party!
• Silly Billy offer stress free magical parties with a range of themes to suit all childrens tastes.
• Fit Kids Dublin North offer fun, energetic party entertainment which can be adapted for all ages and abilities.
• Travelling Potter is a mobile pottery painting party. Paint and decorate your own unique piece of pottery in your home or party venue!

• Genie Mackers (as seen on TV) is a professional, fully insured entertainment business. Our party package gives you everything your child could need for their special day: A Magic Show, Face painting, Balloon Animal Prizes, Karaoke, Puppets, Party Games, Limbo, Parachute Games, Bubbles and more. We can customise the party to suit your needs. You also get to choose from our most popular themes: Magical Genie, Disco Diva, Tooth Fairy, Pirates…. and much more!

• Mini Chefs let the birthday boy or girl and their friends learn basic cookery skills by preparing and decorating their own party food.
• Julie Rose McCormick Puppet Theatre Julie-Rose has created a portable puppet show which can come to your home or party venue and entertain both young and old. In addition to her puppet show, Julie-Rose is trained in face-painting and puppet creation.

check out our party listings for more ideas for Entertainers.

pills forest arts centre, Kilternan, will organise fun art activities for birthday parties held there.

Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons. Child friendly stylists will make it a party to remember, with a beautiful glitter upstyle or beaded braids or coloured hair extensions. Also a soft glitter face makeover with lipgloss and eyeshadow and nails painted with glitter polish finish, or a little flower motif. Soda and snacks are provided. There is also the option of a party bag to take home at half price. Check with your local Kiddies Kuts in Jervis, Swords, or Blanchardstown, for their party options.

Pine Forest Arts Centre, Kilternan, will organise fun art activities for birthday parties held there.
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

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Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in Dublin.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

Do you want to have your little ones bouncing for joy? There are lots of different inflatables such as slides, obstacle courses, sumo suits and ball ponds. 2 options in North Dublin area are:
- **Aylesbury Bouncy Castles**
- **Abbey Castles**

Click here for more Bouncy Castles in the North Dublin area.

Whatever you choose to do to celebrate your child’s birthday, we hope it’s a fun and memorable occasion for you and your child.
**Party Venues**

Having your child’s party at a venue other than your home, can take pressure off and ease the tidying up part!!! Check out these options as just some of the party venues you can find in Cavan, Monaghan, Louth & Meath.

Head to [Newgrange Farm](#), Slane Meath, for a party with a difference, on this lovely working farm! Party package includes guided farmyard tour as far as duck feeding & party then free to enjoy farm, birthday gift & card for birthday boy/girl, use of indoor/outdoor decorated picnic areas, & small tea party for children. Optional extras are tractor trailer rides & party bags for the children. There’s plenty to amuse the children from sandpits, play areas, maze and climbing pipes, to toy tractors and go-karts.

Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons. Child friendly stylists will make it a party to remember, with a beautiful glitter upstyle or beaded braids or coloured hair extensions. Also a soft glitter face makeover with lipgloss and eyeshadow and nails painted with glitter polish finish, or a little flower motif. Soda and snacks are provided. There is also the option of a party bag to take home at half price. Check with your local Kiddies Kuts in [Dundalk](#) or [Drogheda](#) for their party options.

Children’s parties at [Aura Leisure Centre](#) are a great way to celebrate that special day in a fun and safe environment. Aura love a celebration and there are several fun party options available to you, with each option including invitations, an instructor for the entire party, goody bags for each child and juices throughout the day. The birthday boy or girl choose which games are played, including an obstacle course, soccer party and Bokwa dance time! So drop in to your nearest centre, or email information@auragroup.ie to discuss the best party option for your child!

For 7-13 year olds, head to [The Zone Extreme Activity Centre](#) in Navan for their Junior Zone Race Parties. Choose from one of their seven different party options, which include karting, laser tag paintball, laser maze, shooting simulator, archery, and party food. Note the Laser tag is suited for 8+ years. So for a guaranteed fun party, contact The Zone to book the party option that best suits you and your child.

**Other Venues:**

- The award winning Kells play centre, **Best O’Matz**, offers great value for money. They have 2 hour party packages and have a choice of three party rooms, for your little prince/princess.
- Kids aged 8 years and up could have a cookery party in **Fairyhouse Cookery School**. They will have a choice of menus and will learn how to bake & decorate their own birthday cake!
- In Cavan look no further than **Kool Kidz**, they can cater for parties for kids of all ages. They have a great 10,000sqft facility including a 24ft rock climbing wall, a 3 lane slide, laser tag, soccer pitch and much more.
- **Funtasia** in Drogheda can cater for lots of different types of parties - Stuff a Bear Party, Rollerskating party, Pottery Painting party to name only three of the thirteen options!
- The **Hillgrove Hotel in Monaghan** offers great value Kids Parties. You can choose from a swim party, a magician & disco or a bouncy castle party! Lots to keep all ages happy.

See our listings for more [Party Venues](#) in your area.

**Party Entertainers**

Party Entertainers are a great addition to any child’s party. From Magicians to scientists - you can engage your own child and their friends for an afternoon of entertainment!

- **Really Grand Events** have all types of party entertainment on offer for kids of all ages. Clowns, magicians, puppet shows, nail artists, fun science and dance parties! The parties run up to two hours long so parents can relax!
- **Mini Chefs Cookery Parties** - Held in the child’s own home. The child and their friends learn the basic cookery skills by preparing and decorating their own party food in a fun atmosphere. All ingredients, utensils, aprons etc are supplied and each child receives a certificate, chef’s hat and small prize in recognition of their effort! They are based in Drogheda, Co Louth but are happy to travel.
- **Mad Science** - The two Mad Science Laboratories will travel all over Ireland. Their no-mess, hassle-free parties are an entertaining mix of demonstrations by the Mad Scientist and experiments done by the party children.

Find more [Party Entertainers](#) in your area.
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

Baby Showers are so popular in Ireland and are a fun and comforting day for the Mum to be. It’s all about celebrating pregnancy and sharing in her excitement and spending precious time together before Baby arrives. Babyshower.ie, Ireland’s leading Baby Shower party supplier, has a huge range of party supplies, gifts, games and Nappy Cakes to choose from. For Top Tips and help on planning the perfect baby shower contact Niamh - she would be delighted to hear from you.

At thebigparty.ie they know how kids just love to party and also how important it is for families to celebrate those ‘special occasions’. They’ve Ireland’s largest range of themed children’s party supplies and games, and their range of decorations, balloons, tableware and party games should get any party started. With next day nationwide delivery, you don’t need to look elsewhere when planning your next party!

Party Packs is a family run Irish company who supply a wide range of quality products for the perfect party. From 1st Birthday Parties to Princesses and Spiderman to Fireman Sam they can cater for all your party needs which will make organising your child’s birthday much easier. Select your party goods in the comfort of your own home and in your own time, then sit back and wait for the delivery to your door. Party shopping made easy!

All the best parties start at Party Mad with their fantastic range of Balloons, Party Supplies and Costumes! Party Mad are one of the leading stockist of party supplies for all celebrations including birthdays, christenings, themed events, weddings and kiddies parties. So drop-in or check out their extensive online store for all your party needs.

For something a bit different, Bumblebee Creations have a range of unique party products, from personalised age badges, to personalised banners and ribbons. All are available to order online.

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  Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in your area.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

- **Kangaroo Bouncy Castles** can look after all your party inflatable needs in Cavan, Monaghan, Louth & Meath. They have toddler castles, bounce castles, slides, balloons and much more!
- **Bounceabouts** are based in Carlingford, Co Louth and have lots of bouncy inflatables to choose from including obstacle courses, slides and rodeo inflatables. Enough to keep all entertained!
- **Kingscourt Bouncing Castles** are based in Cavan and have bouncy castles, slides, obstacle courses and much more for you to choose to hire.
Party Venues

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For a party with a difference, head to Lough Key Forest & Activity Park, in Roscommon. As well as the lovely park and estate, you can choose from 2 party options. The Adventure Kingdom is a magical land of exciting activities for children, and is suited for children of all ages. Or perhaps older children (over 7yrs) might enjoy the Boda Borg challenge - 47 rooms of fun-filled activities, imaginative puzzles and enjoyable tasks but no instructions! Party Menu available.

Children’s parties at Aura Leisure Centre are a great way to celebrate that special day in a fun and safe environment. Aura love a celebration and there are several fun party options available to you, with each option including invitations, an instructor for the entire party, goody bags for each child and juices throughout the day. The birthday boy or girl choose which games are played, including an obstacle course, soccer party and Bokwa dance time! So drop in to your nearest centre, or email information@auragroup.ie to discuss the best party option for your child!

Other Venues:

- **Happy Days** in Cleveragh Business Park in Sligo offers great party packages including invitation, party bags, food and of course lots of time to play!
- **Dizzys Den** in Bundoran has rope bridges, astro slides, baby & toddler area and can cater for a wide range of party packages. Also has a nice coffee shop for the parents!
- **The Mulvey Centre & Kidz Kingdom** in Carrick-on-Shannon has a wide range of party packages for kids & teens. Bowling, go-karting and play areas to name but a few.

Check out other Party Venues in your area.

Party Entertainers

Party Entertainers are a great addition to any child's party. From Magicians to scientists - you can engage your own child and their friends for an afternoon of entertainment!

- **Once Upon a Time** based in Sligo, will come to your home for a Cupcake decorating Party.
- **Taras Face Art & Design** is based on Ballyshannon, Co Donegal but is available to travel. She will facepaint at birthday parties and would be an entertaining addition.
- **The Party People**, based in Leitrim, come to your home or venue of choice and look after all the party needs with party games & activities for all. Also free prizes & gift for the birthday boy or girl.

Find more North West Party Entertainers.
Party Supplies

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Bouncy Castle Suppliers

- In Donegal there are lots of Bouncy Castle Suppliers - here are a few - Castle Kings, Bumble Bee & Lir Entertainment
- In Sligo & Leitrim, here are some of the companies to hire Bouncy Castles from - Macs Bouncy Castles, Enniscrone Bouncy Castles & Leitrim Bounce.

More bouncy castle suppliers in your area
Party Ideas for Kids in...

Party Venues

When trying to decide where to have your child’s birthday party, it can be a tough call! Do you cater for lots of kids in your own house or take them somewhere where someone else does the entertaining?! No matter what you are looking for there are a plenty of choices for Party Venues around Galway.

**Galway Atlantaquaria** - Parties at the Galway Atlantaquaria are educational and fun. They are the only party where children will get an opportunity to feed the fish, hold starfish and spider crabs.

**Brigit’s Garden** - Choose a fairy or dragon theme or a nature-based party with exciting games, storytelling and activities as experienced staff lead children on a birthday adventure! Catered and non-catered options available.

**Kardio Kids** - Celebrate your child’s Special Day in the Kardio Kids party room where your child will be the special guest. Catering for parties of all ages, the party can include invitations, choice of party menu, party packs for guests, your own party host, & face-painting for all guests. A soccer tournament or High School Musical disco can be arranged, and Kardio Kids also offer an option of making the party a Swimming pool party or a Ceramic party. You’ll be spoiled for choice!

**Sweetie Pies Cake Cafe** - offers a dedicated party room for cupcake parties. Kids can get creative, ice their own cupcakes, dress a gingerbread man & adorn their hot chocolate with marshmallows themselves. All parties include a healthy selection of finger sandwiches and juice or milk. Kids get to take their designs home so no need for goody bags! With no mess to clean, a dedicated Sweetie Pie staff member to keep the kids happy, free tea/coffee for Mum or Dad, all you need do is turn up!

**Loughwell Farm Park** - It is a children’s paradise with over 12,000 sq feet of indoor entertainment, acres of outdoor fun and loads of friendly animals.

**Ballinderreen Astro Turf** - Book a sports/soccer party and enjoy your party food afterwards, in the adjacent community centre - bring your own food/small kitchen available for catering.

**Milano Restaurant** - does children’s pizza making parties.

Check out other Party Venues in Galway.

Other Venues

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Party Entertainers

There are a wide range of party entertainment for all kinds of different interests, from arts & crafts to experimental afternoons!

**Dog and String Puppet Theatre** - Offering a selection of shows to suit different audience sizes and age groups and a variety of puppet making workshops, choose from their party packages that also include face painting, games and music. They will bring their beautiful handcrafted puppets and small transportable theatre to your home, so you can sit back and enjoy the show! Based in Clare but will travel within 40 miles of Tubber including to Galway City and Limerick City.

- **Animal Madness** - brings the wild to your classrooms, parties & events. With creatures from rabbits to snakes, your child is sure to be thrilled with their hands on experience.

- **Gymboree** - Songs, music and entertainment, either at home or in conjunction with Busy Bees in Oranmore. With musical instruments and games, there’s lots of fun to be had.

- **Power Soccer** - Celebrate your child’s Birthday with a sports party in a local hall. Power Soccer provide the coaches and will have all the participants well worn out when their time is up.

- **Stagecoach** - They are suitable for children aged 4 - 16 years and each party is specifically tailor-made for each age group. Each party is high in energy, packed with dramatic games and activities and fun for everyone.

Find more Galway Party Entertainers.
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

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- **HarryAli** is an online party parlour! Based in Wicklow, Harryali aims to take the stress away from parents trying to source themed party supplies.
- **Goodness, formerly The Cupcake Bakery** - Gives you a little bite of sweetness with their handcrafted cupcakes made from the finest ingredients - cakes and cupcakes for every occasion.
- **Jack Jordan’s Party Catering** - Catering service for all occasions and celebrations.
- **Top Table Cakes** - Fabulous custom made cakes for birthdays or any other celebration; original cake creations made to order that taste great.

Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in your area.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

Do you want to have your little ones bouncing for joy? Kids love a bouncy castle and of course, you are not limited any more to the traditional bouncy castle. There are lots of types of inflatables such as slides, obstacle courses, sumo suits and ball ponds. Here are a few providers in Galway

- If you are in the city why not check out Krazy Kastles.
- **Athenry Bouncy Castles** in the East of the county can supply all types of inflatable fun for your child’s party.
- If you are in Galway and need some party entertainment, check out Connacht Castles.

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More bounce castle suppliers in your area.

All the best parties start here!
Party Ideas for Kids in...

**South West**
*(Clare, Kerry & Tipperary)*

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### Party Venues

Don’t want the hassle of letting a pack of excited party-goers run around your house? Check out some of the party venues in Clare, Tipperary & Kerry.

**If your little one likes a bit of adventure,** check out imecOfarm just outside Clarecastle, Co. Clare. There’s plenty of indoor and outdoor fun for everyone with a treasure hunt around the farm, farm animals to visit, a train ride, table tennis, arcade games, bouncy castle, pedal carts and more!

*Other Venues:*

- **Ennis Gymnastics Club**, Clare is a great party venue choice for kids who can’t get enough bouncing, tumbling and jumping. Their qualified coaches are on hand to make sure that all the party-goers have a hopping good time.

- **Up, up and away! Atlantic Airventure** in Shannon provides budding aviators a chance to jet off into the wild blue yonder in their flight simulators. Party-goers learn the basics of flight then the race is on to New York! Suitable for ages 7 and up.

- **If your child enjoys horse-riding,** then Castlefergus Riding Stables have organised horse rides for birthday party groups.

- **Aqua Dome in Tralee** offers a Birthday party swim and party meal afterwards.

- **Crag Cave at Castleisland, Kerry** caters for fun birthday parties.

- **Active kids will enjoy the range of party packages available at Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre,** which includes a choice of a Pool Party, an Indoor Games Party or a Soccer Party.

- **In Tipperary, Hot Shots Bowling** has different party packages with food included. Check out other **Party Venues** in your area.

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### Other Venues:

- **If your little one likes a bit of adventure,** check out imecOfarm just outside Clarecastle, Co. Clare. There’s plenty of indoor and outdoor fun for everyone with a treasure hunt around the farm, farm animals to visit, a train ride, table tennis, arcade games, bouncy castle, pedal carts and more!

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### Party Entertainers

Treat your child to a party with a difference - a children’s ceramic party at **Clare Jordan Ceramics**, Limerick. Discover… Create… Enjoy the fun of creating your own ceramic piece from clay with individual attention, learning design and pottery skills with your friends and family, in a live working studio especially decorated for your party day. Your child will enjoy their ceramic creation for years to come. Bookings available for after school or Saturday. Food arrangements can be made.

**Treat your child to a party with a difference** - a children’s ceramic party at **Clare Jordan Ceramics**, Limerick. Discover… Create… Enjoy the fun of creating your own ceramic piece from clay with individual attention, learning design and pottery skills with your friends and family, in a live working studio especially decorated for your party day. Your child will enjoy their ceramic creation for years to come. Bookings available for afterschool or Saturday. Food arrangements can be made.

- **Clare Jordan Ceramics** offers children’s ceramic parties in Limerick.

**Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons.** Child friendly stylists will make it a party to remember, with a beautiful glitter upstyle or beaded braids or coloured hair extensions. Also a soft glitter face makeover with lip gloss and eyelash and nails painted with glitter polish finish, or a little flower motif. Soda and snacks are provided. There is also the option of a party bag to take home at half price. Check with your local Kiddies Kuts in **Tralee** for their party options.

**Party Entertainers:**

Take the stress out of party entertainment by booking one of these fab entertainers. Guaranteed to put a smile on the kids’ faces, and yours!

For a party with a difference, leave the entertaining to the **Dog and String Puppet Theatre**. Offering a selection of shows to suit different audience sizes and age groups and a variety of puppet making workshops, choose from their party packages that also include face painting, games and music. They will bring their beautiful handcrafted puppets and small transportable theatre to your home, so you can sit back and enjoy the show! Based in Clare but will travel within 40 miles of Tubber including to Galway City and Limerick City.

- **Dog and String Puppet Theatre** offers a variety of shows for different audiences.

- **Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons** provide a range of party packages including glitter makeup and hair styling.

**Other Entertainers:***

- **If magic, face painting and balloon modelling sounds like something your child would like,** check out **Wizard Woo.** His lively shows combine comedy and magic sure to please all ages.

- **A Time to Party in Killorglin, Kerry** provides bouncing castles, and entertainers such as clowns, magicians and DJs and more for parties.

- **Invite Kenny the Clown or Mr. Giggles, Kerry,** to your house and let him entertain the children with your chosen show from hand puppets, magic tricks to balloon modelling.

- **The Punch and Judy Puppets with the Puppet Lady, Kerry** will make the child’s birthday special and one to be remembered forever. Find more **Party Entertainers**.

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22

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**South West**
*(Clare, Kerry & Tipperary)*

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**Party Venues**

Don’t want the hassle of letting a pack of excited party-goers run around your house? Check out some of the party venues in Clare, Tipperary & Kerry.

**If your little one likes a bit of adventure,** check out imecofarm just outside Clarecastle, Co. Clare. There’s plenty of indoor and outdoor fun for everyone with a treasure hunt around the farm, farm animals to visit, a train ride, table tennis, arcade games, bouncy castle, pedal carts and more!

**Other Venues:**

- **Ennis Gymnastics Club**, Clare is a great party venue choice for kids who can’t get enough bouncing, tumbling and jumping. Their qualified coaches are on hand to make sure that all the party-goers have a hopping good time.

- **Up, up and away! Atlantic Airventure** in Shannon provides budding aviators a chance to jet off into the wild blue yonder in their flight simulators. Party-goers learn the basics of flight then the race is on to New York! Suitable for ages 7 and up.

- **If your child enjoys horse-riding,** then Castlefergus Riding Stables have organised horse rides for birthday party groups.

- **Aqua Dome in Tralee** offers a Birthday party swim and party meal afterwards.

- **Crag Cave at Castleisland, Kerry** caters for fun birthday parties.

- **Active kids will enjoy the range of party packages available at Killarney Sports and Leisure Centre,** which includes a choice of a Pool Party, an Indoor Games Party or a Soccer Party.

- **In Tipperary, Hot Shots Bowling** has different party packages with food included. Check out other **Party Venues** in your area.

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**Party Entertainers**

Take the stress out of party entertainment by booking one of these fab entertainers. Guaranteed to put a smile on the kids’ faces, and yours!

For a party with a difference, leave the entertaining to the **Dog and String Puppet Theatre**. Offering a selection of shows to suit different audience sizes and age groups and a variety of puppet making workshops, choose from their party packages that also include face painting, games and music. They will bring their beautiful handcrafted puppets and small transportable theatre to your home, so you can sit back and enjoy the show! Based in Clare but will travel within 40 miles of Tubber including to Galway City and Limerick City.

- **Dog and String Puppet Theatre** offers a variety of shows for different audiences.

- **Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons** provide a range of party packages including glitter makeup and hair styling.

**Other Entertainers:**

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22
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

Baby Bitz N Party Pieces is an online party supplies shop that provides fabulous filled party bags to suit any occasion (birthdays, communion, christening etc.) and budget.

Pinatas Pinatas will make Pinatas in any theme, shape or colour to suit your needs - check them out for a really unique addition to the party!

Dress My Party.ie have a beautiful range of funky party decorations for online sale or rental.

Party in a Box - Another online company that delivers themed party boxes that are suitable for all ages and include everything from the invitations to birthday balloons and banners!

HarryAli is an online party parlour! Based in Wicklow, Harryali aims to take the stress away from parents trying to source themed party supplies.

Pick up all the balloons, decorations, piñatas and every other party item you might need at The Fiesta House in Ennis.

Don’t forget the cake! Check out Miss Molly’s Bakehouse, Clare, for some out-of-this-world amazing novelty cakes. Thomas the Tank Engine, Sesame Street, Mickey Mouse … she can do them all!

Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in your area.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

Clare - consider Ennis Bouncing Castles and Lissycasey Bouncing Castles, while in Kilkee, Fergal's Bouncing world has bouncy castles, mega slides, obstacles courses and garden furniture for hire.

Kerry - In Killarney, Lissivigeen Bouncing Castles, and Ballyheigue Bouncing Castles in Ballyheigue, for hire of bouncy castles, bounce slides and obstacle courses. Also A Time to Party in Killorglin provides bouncy castles, entertainers such as clowns, magicians and DJs and more for parties.

Tipperary - Jump N Bounce in Borrisokane, Co Tipperary have bouncy castles for hire for all occasions

See our Party Listings for more bouncy castle suppliers in your area.

Party Packs is a family run Irish company who supply a wide range of quality products for the perfect party. From 1st Birthday Parties to Princesses and Spiderman to Fireman Sam they can cater for all your party needs which will make organising your child’s birthday much easier. Select your party goods in the comfort of your own home and in your own time, then sit back and wait for the delivery to your door. Party shopping made easy!

Party Mad are one of the leading stockist of party supplies for all celebrations including birthdays, christenings, themed events, weddings and kiddies parties. So drop-in or check out their extensive online store for all your party needs.

For something a bit different, Bumblebee Creations have a range of unique party products, from personalised age badges, to personalised banners and ribbons. All are available to order online.

Baby Showers are so popular in Ireland and are a fun and comforting day for the Mum to be. It’s all about celebrating pregnancy and sharing in her excitement and spending precious time together before Baby arrives. Babyshower.ie, Ireland’s leading Baby Shower party supplier, has a huge range of party supplies, gifts, games and Nappy Cakes to choose from. For Top Tips and help on planning the perfect baby shower contact Niamh - she would be delighted to hear from you.

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Party Ideas for Kids in Limerick

Party Venues

Children’s parties at Aura Leisure Centre are a great way to celebrate that special day in a fun and safe environment. Aura love a celebration and there are several fun party options available to you, with each option including invitations, an instructor for the entire party, goody bags for each child and juices throughout the day. The birthday boy or girl choose which games are played, including an obstacle course, soccer party and Bokwa dance time! So drop in to your nearest centre, or email information@auragroup.ie to discuss the best party option for your child!

Other Venues

- Indoor Play areas - Formula for fun, Delta Adventure City and Tons of Fun - offer great play areas, party rooms and party food. You just bring the cake.
- Rollerjam Roller skating party - suitable for boys and girls and a great way to burn off all the excess energy from all the sweets they will eat on the day.
- Delta Sports Dome offer both Football parties and Popstar parties with Singing, dancing and play. Food and refreshments included.
- Free Range Kids - organises good old fashion fun parties Traditional games, cookie making, tie dying, pet farm experience, ‘Egg Drop’, Karaoke and the signature Slippery Dip, along with a wide range of similar activities plus a smattering of soccer, tennis and The Old Rectory World Cup!

Check out other Party Venues in Limerick.

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Other Entertainers:

- Sow and Grow - kids will have great fun while learning about plants and nature and each child will have a plant to take home giving them a great sense of pride and achievement. Birthday packages can be tailored for every party and will include planting and garden crafts.
- Animal Magic Road Show - meet a selection of highly trained friendly and well mannered animals and birds, from reptiles, mammals, raptors, to amphibians’ insects and arachnids
- Mad Science - The two Mad Science Laboratories will travel all over Ireland. Their no-mess, hassle-free parties are an entertaining mix of demonstrations by the Mad Scientist and experiments done by the party children.

Find more Limerick Party Entertainers.
Party Supplies

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Bouncy Castle Suppliers

If you need to hire a bouncy castle here are some Bouncy Castle Suppliers in the Limerick area.
Party Ideas for Kids in...

More Venues

- Enjoy a tailor made Birthday Party at Crafty Hands Pottery Studio. Parties last for 2.5 hours and children have a choice between Claywork or Pottery Painting. Pieces are then left at the studio to be fired and returned to you in a week. Each child has their very own unique piece of pottery that they can treasure for life and use daily.

- Parties are a matter of pride at Go Safari, where parties include 2 hours play, private party rooms for your meal, party bags for each child, free invites, free teas & coffees for the adults, a dedicated party team to cater to your needs and a special gift for every birthday child.

- Have an out of this world birthday party at CIT Blackrock Castle Observatory! Their astronomers and scientists will create an hour long, age-appropriate workshop based on space, aliens or the Solar System exclusively for your guests, and the workshop is followed by a guided visit to the award winning interactive exhibit Cosmos at the Castle, complete with activities like the Comet Chaser and the Pan Galactic Station!

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Check out our party listings for more ideas for Venues

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Party Entertainers

There is no clowning around with children these days - they know what they want when it comes to their party. Luckily, Cork is rich in variety when it comes to entertainers and all interests and tastes can be catered for.

- Mr Cool can make organising a party so much easier. They deliver a bouncy castle in the morning, call back later with the ice-cream van and/or old style candy floss cart, provide balloons and lucky bags for the kids, and return that night to collect the castle. How cool is that?! They cater for all events.

- Arrhh me hearties! What’s a party without some magic?! And no better man or friendlier pirate than Pirate Pete, who will be accompanied by his parrot Oscar who will have your guests cracking up at his jokes. Each magic show lasts about 45 minutes and will consist of numerous magic tricks performed by both Pete and his parrot.

- With Gymboree you are guaranteed a fun-filled and memorable birthday! Have Gymboree come out to your home or party venue. An enthusiastic entertainer will lead your group with activities geared specifically for your child’s birthday and will keep them on their feet with an hour of games with instruments, songs, dancing and parachute time.

Check out our party listings for more ideas for Party Entertainers in Cork
**Party Supplies**

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

**Baby Showers**

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- **HarryAli** is an online party parlour! Based in Wicklow, HarryAli aims to take the stress away from parents trying to source themed party supplies.

Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in Cork.

**Bouncy Castle Suppliers**

- **JP Inflatables** are based in Whitescross and have a large variety of bouncing castles available for private hire. With everything from castles with slides to obstacle courses, they will have the perfect castle for your party.
- The bouncy castles are a new addition to Labyrinth Creative Health. At present they have a selection of five to choose from with more to come in the future. Bouncy castles are fun entertaining and great exercise for all.

Find more Bouncy Castles in Cork.

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Party Ideas for Kids in...

(Counties)

**Party Venues**

Having your kid’s party at a venue, other than your home, can take pressure off and ease the tidying up part!! Check out these options of some of the party venues you can find in Westmeath, Longford, Laois, Offaly & Kildare.

Children’s parties at Aura Leisure Centre are a great way to celebrate that special day in a fun and safe environment. Aura love a celebration and there are several fun party options available to you, with each option including invitations, an instructor for the entire party, goody bags for each child and juices throughout the day. The birthday boy or girl choose which games are played, including an obstacle course, soccer party and Bokwa dance time! So drop in to your nearest centre, or email information@auragroup.ie to discuss the best party option for your child!

**Other Venues :**

- **Why settle for an ordinary party when you can have an unforgettable birthday party at Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park, Kildare?** It’s the perfect all year round venue for Birthday Parties with a healthy mix of indoor and outdoor fun. Parties last 3-4 hrs and includes indoor and outdoor play centres, train rides, treasure hunts, pet farm and lots more.
- **Creative Ceramics Studio** - a creative and exciting party entertainer, a mobile paint your own pottery, who come with all the materials for children to create a gift to last a lifetime.
- **All Things Crafty Party**, either in your own home, or at their studio in Newbridge for 1.5hrs. They also offer a Balloon Service.
- **Custard Pie Puppet Company** - a very popular and well loved entertainer is Conor Lambert interactive show - his name and reputation need no further description other than ‘enthralling’.
- **The two Mad Science Laboratories** will travel all over Ireland. Their no-mess, hassle-free parties are an entertaining mix of demonstrations by the Mad Scientist and experiments done by the party children.
- **Fitkids Kildare** are now running Fitkids themed parties, great fun, well worth checking out.
- **Leisure World Athlone** - Bowling Quasar and Indoor Play Centre. Fun for all ages great packages available.
- **Jungle Den, Naas** also offers option of Disco Party, Themed Party and Option for a Private Party from 6-8pm, where children have exclusive use of the venue.
- **Gymboree, Celbridge** host fun parties for 1-7yrs, again with option of private hire.
- **K-Bowl, Naas** - offer a choice of packages with 1hr bowling for parties. They also have Wacky World soft-play area, which can be combined with bowling for parties.
- **Clonfert Pet Farm**, Maynooth Pet Farm – cater for birthday parties, and provide food either indoors/outdoors. Exotic range of animals which children can feed, picnic area, play areas. Can also use BBQ area for Birthday parties or even bring your own picnic. Perfect for a summer birthday!
- **Mullingar Greyhound Stadium** - Party food races and good fun for children 8 plus.
- **Glendeer Pet Farm** - visit the animals, play in the playground, indoor play area with bouncy castles or the huge outdoor sandshed. Party packages available.
- **Rock n Bowl and Jungle Joes** in Mullingar is a great party venue for kids of all age. It features a huge climbing frame, tube slide, ball pool, football area and toddler area. They have bowling lanes with features to enhance play of younger children and dedicated party rooms with combo bowling and play packages available.
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Find more Party Venues in Midlands.

**Party Entertainers**

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Check out other Party Venues in Midlands.

Find more Party Entertainers in Midlands.

**Kiddies Kuts**

KIDS HAIR SALONS & EAR PIERCING SPECIALISTS

Princess Parties at Kiddies Kuts Salons. Child friendly stylists will make it a party to remember, with a beautiful glitter upstyle or beaded braids or coloured hair extensions. Also a soft glitter face makeover with lipgloss and eyeshadow and nails painted with glitter polish finish, or a little flower motif. Soda and snacks are provided. There is also the option of a party bag to take home at half price. Check with your local Kiddies Kuts in Newbridge or Portlaoise for their party options.

Find more Party Venues in Midlands.
Party Supplies

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- The Bakery Mullingar - Order your delicious cupcakes from The Bakery and if it takes your fancy you could even get a giant Cupcake Birthday Cake!

Click here for details on more birthday cakes, party caterers and party suppliers in Midlands.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

In the Midlands there are lots of Bouncy Castle Suppliers - here’s a few.

- Mullingar, Westmeath - ABC Bouncy Castles
- Longford - Midland Bouncers
- Athlone - Athlone Bouncy Castles
- Kildare - Athy Bouncing Castles - offer a great service and tons of fun with castles, combis, obstacle course and sumo suits.
- Clone Bouncing Castles good reliable local supplier with a variety of castle, slides and combis to complete your child’s wish list.
- A.K. Bouncing Castles another good source for your bouncing birthday party with a variety of inflatables to choose from.
- Abbey Bouncing Castles: a magical experience to entertain and complete your party. A friendly efficient service is supplied by this team.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers in your area.
Party Ideas for Kids in South East (Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford & Waterford)

Party Venues

Having your child’s party at a venue other than your home, can take pressure off and ease the tidying up part!!! Check out these options as just some of the party venues you can find in Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford and Waterford.

For something a bit different, head to the lovely Castlecomer Discovery Park for your kid’s birthday party. With 80 acres of woodland to discover, and their climbing wall, leap of faith and treetop adventure walk, there’s plenty to amuse the kids.

Other Venues:

- **Leisure Max** in Wexford town offers great party packages including invitation, party bags, food and of course lots of time to play! There is something for everyone at Leisure Max from age 2 years up to 82 years old!
- **The Dome** in Carlow has 12 lanes of 10 pin bowling, 8,000 sq.ft children’s adventure play centre, Diner, Video Games, Slot Machines and Kiddies Go Karts.
- **Jellie Tots** in Kilkenny combines state of the art indoor play, organised children’s activities, party rooms and a wholesome family restaurant.
- **Run Amuck** in Tramore features something for everyone with a 3-level main play frame for 5-12 year olds, a toddler area for 2-5 year olds and a baby area. All parties include boats, invitations, party bags, unlimited juice, free tea/coffee for birthday child’s parents, ice cream cake and run for two hours.
- **Nore Valley Park, Kilkenny** - Activities and pet farm. Or they can bring their mobile pet farm to you!
- **Rathwood Home & Garden World** have cookie classes for kids, train rides, falconry, and animals, so your kids will be well entertained.

See Listings for more Party Venues in your area.

Party Entertainers

Party Entertainers are a great addition to any child’s party. From Magicians to scientists - you can engage the kids for an afternoon of entertainment!

- Have a Mad Scientist come and make your birthday party go with a blast, with Mad Science Parties. Based in Kilkenny, their no-mess, hassle-free parties are an entertaining mix of demonstrations by their Mad Scientist and experiments done by the party children.
- **Craic Pots Party**, based in Nenagh, come to your home or venue of choice and the children may select from a variety of bisque wear design stencils and keep their masterpieces after they have been created. A fantastic reminder after the party is over.

See Listings for more Entertainers in your area.
Party Supplies

Whether you are looking for custom-made birthday cakes, or someone to cater your child’s birthday party, there are plenty of options to choose from.

At thebigparty.ie they know how kids just love to party and also how important it is for families to celebrate those ‘special occasions’. They’ve Ireland’s largest range of themed children’s party supplies and games, and their range of decorations, balloons, tableware and party games should get any party started. With next day nationwide delivery, you don’t need to look elsewhere when planning your next party!

Baby Showers are so popular in Ireland and are a fun and comforting day for the Mum to be. It’s all about celebrating pregnancy and sharing in her excitement and spending precious time together before Baby arrives. Babyshower.ie, Ireland’s leading Baby Shower party supplier, has a huge range of party supplies, gifts, games and Nappy Cakes to choose from. For Top Tips and help on planning the perfect baby shower contact Niamh - she would be delighted to hear from you.

Party Packs is a family run Irish company who supply a wide range of quality products for the perfect party. From 1st Birthday Parties to Princesses and Spiderman to Fireman Sam they can cater for all your party needs which will make organising your child’s birthday much easier. Select your party goods in the comfort of your own home and in your own time, then sit back and wait for the delivery to your door. Party shopping made easy!

More Party Supplies:

- Baby Bitz N Party Pieces is an online party supplies shop that provides fabulous filled party bags to suit any occasion (birthdays, communion, christening etc.) and budget.
- Pinatas Pinatas will make Pinatas in any theme, shape or colour to suit your needs - check them out for a really unique addition to the party!
- Dress My Party.ie have a beautiful range of funky party decorations for online sale or rental.
- Party in a Box - Another online company that delivers themed party boxes that are suitable for all ages and include everything from the invitations to birthday balloons and banners!
- HarryAli is an online party parlour! Based in Wicklow, HarryAli aims to take the stress away from parents trying to source themed party supplies.

See Listings for more Party Cake, Food and suppliers in your area.

Bouncy Castle Suppliers

- In Kilkenny there are lots of Bouncy Castle Suppliers - here are a few
  - Ballybrack
  - Crazy Cats.
- In Carlow, here are some companies to hire Bouncy Castles From - Scats Bouncy Castles and Absolutley Fabulous Bouncing Castles.

See our Party Listings for more bouncy castle suppliers in your area.
First Holy Communion can be an expensive day, especially if you have a large family. Why not host the party at home? Here are the Mykidstime.ie Top Ten Tips for hosting your Communion Party at home.

After the ceremony, a First Holy Communion party at home is a great way to include your extended family and friends in this special day.

1 Arrival Time
You will want to take pictures after the ceremony, and your child will want to spend some time with their friends, either at the church or at your school, so make sure you don’t invite guests to arrive too early.

2 The Food
Get Caterers for your main dish - ask friends for recommendations and book early. If you are a great cook and want to cater yourself keep it simple.

Ask for help and do as much as you can before the day. You could ask family or friends to bring desserts/salads. Don’t be afraid to ask if one of them would come to the house while you are at the church to help get the food set up, as you will have your hands full getting yourself and your child ready on the morning.

If you have been eating healthily since the start of the year why not try and keep things going.

3 Tableware
Hire glasses, crockery and cutlery from your caterer or a local supplier. Paper plates and plastic cutlery are great for kids and cuts down on the washing up!

4 BackUp Plans for Weather!
It may be the Summer, but the weather is not always nice! If you are relying on the weather make sure you have a Gazebo or covered area for people, if they will not all fit comfortably in your house.

5 Entertainment
Have games for children of all ages. Many people hire a bouncy castle or slide, again book these early as communion days are very busy.

See if you can get an all weather inflatable, to be prepared for bad weather. Ask friends or family to recommend a good supplier.

Also good, are games like Twister, Giant Jenga, Giant Snakes and Ladders, Giant Connect 4 which are all available to hire or buy.

6 Keeping a record of the day
Have some disposable cameras - Children and adults will enjoy taking snaps on the day and they are a lovely memento.

7 Refreshments
Alcohol - Decide in advance whether you want to serve it or not. Don’t be afraid not to serve it, people will understand.

8 Have some fun!
A pinata or Chocolate Fountain can be great fun and will keep the children, and adults, happy.

9 Change of clothes
If you intend using the dress/suit or shoes for another child, have a change of clothes for the communion child.

10 Enjoy the occasion!
Above all, enjoy the occasion - is a special day for you too as the parent! Don’t be afraid to delegate and ask for help, so that you get the time to celebrate too!
If you have decided to bite the bullet and host your child’s birthday party at home, here are 20 Fun Kids Party Games and Activities, to help you decide on kids party games for the day.

1. Pass the Parcel

We know it’s an Oldie but it’s a Goodie. All kids love the thrill of seeing if the parcel will stop at them as it gets passed around the circle. When the music stops, the child with the parcel unwraps a layer.

Tip: wrap smaller goodies in between layers so that there’s more than one winner during the game.

2. Pin the Tail on the Donkey

Continuing with another classic, draw a Donkey (or other character to go with the theme of your birthday party) and then you’ll need a tail with a drawing pin and a blindfold. Each child takes it in turns to pin the tail on and the one that gets closest wins.

3. Blindman’s Bluff

Clear a big space free of obstacles so no-one trips or head outdoors if weather permits. One player is “It” and wears a blindfold. They try to touch the other players without being able to see them, while the other players try to avoid being caught.

4. Musical Chairs/Bumps/Statues

Another old favourite, you’ll need one less chair than the number of kids playing. They run around the chairs and when the music stops try to grab a seat. The last one left without a chair is out and sits out the rest of the game. Remove one chair and continue.

Musical Bumps: everyone has to bump down onto the floor when the music stops. Last one down is out.

Musical Statues: everyone has to freeze when the music stops. Anyone who wobbles is out.

Can be adapted to the theme of the party e.g. Musical Toadstools if fairy theme.

5. Donuts on a String

Tie donuts in a row (use the donuts with the hole in them!) onto a string and each child has to have a go at eating a donut without touching or licking the sugar off their lips.

“Another option instead of donuts is to buy bagels instead and spread nutella on them – hang them the same way as the donuts – great fun……but have the wet wipes ready!!!” Maria C

6. Balloon Burst

Put little treats in a balloon like mini yoyos, rings, ping pong balls then blow the balloons up. The kids have to burst them without using their hands, by sitting on them or jumping on them.

7. Hide the Thimble

Another classic. Instead of a thimble we use a bright coloured object or toy and the parent hides it in one room and the kids have to find it. You can move around the house if you want to vary the game or you could hide more than one of the item. You can also tell them “Hotter/Colder” to give clues to proximity to the object they are looking for.

8. Playdough

Make home made playdough and get them to make shapes out of it. Then cook the dough to harden it and once cool, they can even paint them to take home in between other games.

9. Mummies

Divide the kids into teams and they have to wrap one team member in toilet roll to make them into a mummy within a time limit.

“Great craic playing make a mummy from toilet roll, we had teams of three and each one wrapped one fella like a mummy in toilet roll – great fun” Caroline W

10. Craft Fun

Set up a craft table where the kids get to make and/or decorate something fun. For example, if you are doing a princess themed party, they could decorate their own crowns or a small fabric bag? For fairy parties, they could decorate a small plate (buy in discount shop) or make their own paper wings.

11. Decorate Cupcakes

Kids love doing things with decorations and sprinkles.

“I baked the fairy cakes in advance and then had white and milk chocolate melted in the microwave with a variety of sprinkles and edible toppings for them to decorate themselves. Each child got to decorate two cakes, one to eat then and there and one for their goody bag”, Jill H

12. Scavenger Hunt

Hold a scavenger hunt. Prepare a list of 10 or more items that each team has to head outside (or can be done indoors if really horrible weather) to find. First team back wins.
13. Pinata Fun

Why not try a Pinata for a change? Either buy one or have a go at making your own.

“I had my boy’s party at home last year and they all had great fun with a pinata I bought and filled with sweets and small toys etc and it’s still fine so that I can use the next time”, Debbie O

14. Relay Ball Pass

Divide the kids into teams and give each team a ball or balloon. The kids have to pass a ball between their knees, no hands allowed, from one person to the next in relay style. You can also get them to pass from under their necks but that can be harder for younger kids.

15. The Chocolate Game

You will need:
- 1 large bar of chocolate on a plate with a knife and fork
- large boots, large jacket, hat, and gloves, and
- one dice.

Kids throw dice until someone gets a 6. Whoever gets a 6 quickly puts on all the clothes and starts to eat the chocolate using the cutlery until the next child throws a 6 and then it becomes their turn...

“WARNING: it gets very frantic and kids get very excited. Great fun, much hilarity,” Lyvette Y

16. The Grape On The Flour Game

You will need a plate, flour and some grapes.

Put one grape balanced on top of a mountain of flour. Each child has to take a turn to slice away chunks of flour without knocking grape. The loser who knocks the grape ends up with their face pushed into flour – boys love this one!

17. Water Balloons

Let the kids throw water balloons at a big target drawn on cardboard. To make water balloons, just hold the balloon under the tap (you can draw the neck of the balloon over the tap) to fill it gently before tying it.

18. Indoor Treasure Hunt

Hold an indoor treasure hunt with clues to search around the house to discover treasure in the final spot (e.g. sweets or chocolates).

19. Dress Up Relay Race

Divide the kids into 2 teams. They have to take it in turns to put on lots of big person clothes/wellies etc. run up to the top of the room and back, take everything off and next person dresses and so on.

20. The Memory Game

Have a tray with 20 items on it, e.g. matchstick, orange, pencil, etc. covered up. Everybody gets a piece of paper and pen/pencil and gets 1 minute to look at the tray when the items are revealed, then they have to remember as many items as they can once it’s covered up again. The one with the most correct items wins.

Other tips
- Put any breakables away into one room and make it an out of bounds area from the start.
- Make sure to have some extra small prizes in case anyone is disappointed at not winning one of the games.
Birthday Parties are expensive! Would you like some ideas for saving money on parties? One of our Mykidstime Parents shares her tips for hosting a 7 year old Girl’s Birthday Party for under €50.

My daughter turned 7 recently and instead of an entertainer or going to a party venue, we invited a small group of her friends to the house 4-6 p.m. on a Friday after school. Here’s how I managed to keep the cost of the party activities to under €50 (and total cost of party under €70 for 13 kids)

We had 4 activities lined up for the girls to do, each one taking approx 20-25 mins each.

**Activity 1: Fashion Design**

I bought a CreativeStudio “Create your Fantasy Model” colouring book at Eason’s and photocopied extra sheets.

Each girl got 2 sheets to design their own fashion with a heap of colouring pens and twistables to share on the table.

Cost: €7.95 (optional cost of e.g. 10 – 15 sheets at a photocopy place)

**Activity 2: Decorating Cupcakes**

In advance, I bought a selection of sprinkles and stars and love hearts as well as cupcake cases from [www.stuff4cakes.ie](http://www.stuff4cakes.ie).

Cost €18.94 including delivery

Then purchased 1 bar milk chocolate cake topping and 1 bar white chocolate cake topping and some mini marshmallows from Tesco.

Cost €4.99

On the day of the party, I made 24 cupcakes from this [Easy Cupcake Recipe](http://easy-cupcake-recipe).

**Preparation for this part of the party:**

- Put out all the decorations in little bowls in the middle of the table.
- Let each girl choose 2 cupcakes
- Melt the chocolate bar topping in the microwave – try 30 seconds then stir, a further 30 seconds and stir until melted. Put out on table when girls are seated with their 2 cupcakes, give each girl a spoon and tell them to start spreading the topping on their cakes and pass along the bowl/jug.
- Then they can decorate as they wish and eat 1 cake and save 1 for later!

**Activity 3: Treasure Hunt**

With the help of older daughter, we had a treasure hunt with 10 clues going round the house and out into the garden.

Each clue’s answer led to the next clue. We had them work as a team together so they had to take turns reading the next clue out.

The final clue led them to the “treasure” – a pile of chocolate coins hidden somewhere.

Related: [How to Stage a Treasure Hunt](http://how-to-stage-a-treasure-hunt) & [Fun Treasure Hunt for Kids](http://fun-treasure-hunt-for-kids)

Cost: €4.00 for 2 packets of chocolate coins from M&S

**Activity 4: Paper Tissue Flowers**

I bought 1 packet of multicoloured tissue and a packet of multi coloured fuzzy sticks (or what I would have called “pipe cleaners” as a child) at Tesco.

Each girl made a paper tissue flower to take home, [read here for the instructions](http://read-here-for-the-instructions).

Cost: €4.00

**No Party Bags!**

Each girl took home their 2nd decorated cupcake, their fashion pictures and their paper flowers (with a lollipop for a treat).

**Total cost for the 4 activities: €45**

(not including birthday cake and party food)

(NB Party food for the girls included: birthday cake, mini sausages, pineapple chunks, strawberries, mini rolls, mini mallows, hummus & carrot sticks, “Smiley Faces”: approx €20)
Are you organising your child’s birthday party? Wondering what do you put in the party bags for the children to take home? Here are some party bag ideas, and where to find them.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party Bag Ideas</th>
<th>Where can I find them?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mini jigsaw puzzles for the kids</td>
<td>Local toy shops or bookstores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toy cars for the boys</td>
<td>Local toy shops or larger supermarkets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair accessories such as clips, go-gos and hair bands</td>
<td>Claire’s Accessories, Penneys and most local pharmacies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Ladybird Disney book for each child</td>
<td>Local bookshops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini notepads and mini highlighters</td>
<td>Some newsagents or Stationers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pens and pencils and rubbers</td>
<td>Some newsagents or Stationers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curly drinking straws</td>
<td>Most grocery stores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plastic snakes and joke stuff</td>
<td>Local 2 euro/ eurosaver shops and local Joke Stores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids’ magazines (could work with a theme such as a Peppa Pig party or Spiderman)</td>
<td>Newsagents or bookstores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stickers, Silly Bands or the latest collectible cards</td>
<td>Local 2 Euro Shop, Local Newsagents and Craft Shops</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a change from plastic loot bags, look out for fabric party bags or make your own simple ones.

Shops like Smyths and Tesco sell packs of small toys suitable for both boys and girls e.g. 8 bouncy balls, 8 mini stampers etc. These are great as they are much less expensive than buying individual items and keep everyone happy as they are all the same.
10 Great Present Ideas by Age

**Gifts for Wee Ones**

**Sausage Dog Softie**

This Sausage Dog Softie with Personalised Bag is from Tiny Kooka. It’s a Sausage dog cushion in a personalised bag – handmade in Ireland with care and attention to detail.

Price: €29

**Bonjour Two Piece Gift Set**

This Bonjour! Two Piece Gift Set from Moobles and Toobles contains a bodysuit & knotted hat, screen printed by hand. Hot air balloon illustration in Vermillion Red, Aqua and Grey. Each set comes wrapped in white tissue, tied with bakers twine inside a matching hand printed cotton drawstring bag. Unisex gift perfect for a baby shower.

Price: €18

**Gifts for Younger Kids**

**Fleece Hoodie**

This Crocodile Fleece Hoodie (Custom-Made) is from With Love and a Needle. Jorika makes each piece by hand after ordering – they’re little pieces of art your little ones can wear and adore.

Price: €30

**Loader Tights from Slugs & Snails**

These Loader Tights are from Slugs & Snails. With super bright red background, rubbish trucks and dumper trucks what’s not to like? Made with Oeko Tex 100 Certified cotton “Loader” are luxury for little legs and safe even for that delicate newborn skin! Available in sizes 0-6 months to 3-4 years.

Price: €12.99

**Pirate Costume**

Pirate Costume from Baby Bitz N Party Pieces. Complete Pirate costume that includes top, trousers, bandana, eye patch ~ Fits: approx 3-6 year.

Price: €7.99

**Gifts for Older Kids and Teens**

**5 in 1 Board Games**

5 in 1 Board Games from Little Citizens Boutique. This Classic Board Game includes draughts (checkers), ludo, backgammon and snakes and ladders. Each of it’s four sides has a different boards and all the pieces fit comfortably inside the wooden box.

Price: 46.02

**Lip Balm**

This Lip Balm au Natural from The Handmade Soap Company, is formulated to heal, repair and moisturize sensitive lips, unscented. Rosehip seed oil is rich in vitamins A and C and this lip balm would make a lovely present for any teen.

Price: €4.50

**Wall Stickers**

This Jungle Safari Wall Stickers from KidsWallStickers will bring a room to life, with 44 amazing peel and stick room decorations! Pack includes lion, tiger, giraffe, elephant and many more animals from the jungle. Easy, quick and fun to install, includes jungle tree height chart, splash-proof and washable, removable and re-stickable.

Price: €55

**BuddyBags**

Tired of tidy up time ending in tears? BuddyBags are a bag for all those toys that make tidy up time a battle. They encourage children to be independent in tidying up, and in the process make parents’ lives easier!

Price: €24.99
We hope you have enjoyed the Best Ever Party Guide

We’d love to know what you thought, so please email us at info@mykidstime.ie

Follow Us!

Are you interested in being included in our next Family Guide? Email us at advertising@mykidstime.ie for details
For 2014 our range of Communion Party supplies is bigger and better value than ever. Before planning your communion celebration check out our Communion section.

At TheBigParty we love to party and in our Babies & Tots category we have cute baby pink and blue ranges plus baby shower decorations which all the party goers will love.

www.thebigparty.ie have Ireland’s largest range of themed children’s party supplies and games. This year we have a mixture of new themes and old favourites which are too many to mention but have a look and you are sure to find what you are looking for.

You don’t need to look anywhere else when planning your next party! Follow us on Facebook for great offers, discount codes, competitions and new product updates.