

MAKING AN EVENT KID FRIENDLY

Hosting a kid-friendly block party builds community, provides a safe space for kids to play and make new friends and creates lasting memories. Planning a kid-friendly block party is a wonderful way to bring joy, fun, and a sense of community to your neighborhood.

FIRST THINGS FIRST_SAFETY

- **Have a first aid kit on hand for minor injuries.**
- **Set clear expectations with young kids when adult supervision is necessary.**
- **Set clear expectations of anything inside the home (ex: not going upstairs, staying out of locked bedrooms, touching pets, etc.)**
- **If possible, host on a cul-de-sac or block/cone off areas with caution signage.**
- **Have lots of space to run and be free, but with clearly set boundaries.**
- **If possible, place cones or signage outside of event to encourage slower driving where kids are present/playing.**
- **Ensure that activities and equipment are age appropriate for who is attending.**
- **Plan activities for a wide range of ages and interests, and consider the needs of children with disabilities or other special requirements.**
- **Provide plenty of water and healthy snacks. Pre-packed and portioned food snacks are easy and inexpensive!**
- **Have a back up plan for weather conditions.**
- **Have a high chair, blankets, towels, baby swings, gates, or pack-and-play for toddlers and younger.**
- **Have available signage to alert guests of any allergies, and keep any foods that could be a choking hazard out of reach of kids.**

HOSTING YOUR PARTY

HOST A KID-FRIENDLY THEME PARTY

Host a Theme Party: Consider hosting a themed party to add an extra layer of excitement, such as a neighborhood pool party, park get-together, family movie night, or a family game night with activities like “Minute to Win It”.

FOOD AND DRINK

Offer kid-friendly food and drinks, being mindful of allergies. Suggestions include renting a food truck, providing cotton candy, popcorn, or snow cone machines, and ensuring high chairs are available for the youngest guests. Utilize signs and provide alternative food options for children with dietary restrictions. Keep any foods that could be a choking hazard out of reach of kids.

ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

When planning your event, consider themes that will apply to all the family. While it's great to have child-friendly activities, can you think of anything that children and their parents can enjoy together? Listed below are some ideas for both kids to play together or families to do together both inside and outside.

KID ZONE

Activities for kids to safely play together

OUTSIDE

- Bubble station
- Sidewalk chalk
- Four corners game
- Bean bag toss
- Parachute - Large sheet or [THIS](#)
- Hula hoops
- Water toys (e.g. water guns, water balloons, etc.)
- DIY Sandbox
- Butcher paper on table for drawing/coloring

INSIDE

- Board games
- Charades
- Coloring station with paper, markers, crayons, and stickers
- Word searches, I Spy, or Connect-the-Dots activity sheets
- Video game console
- Movie Night
- Legos or building blocks
- Themed crafts
- Karaoke

FAMILY ZONE

Activities to do together as families—nothing makes kids more happy than when parents or guardians participate in the same games/activities!

OUTSIDE

- Obstacle courses or races
- Minute to Win It games
- Yard game tournaments (e.g. cornhole, spikeball, volleyball, ping pong, pickleball, kickball, etc.)
- Outdoor water games
- Scavenger hunt

INSIDE

- Board games or Charades
- Face painting
- Themed crafts

HELPFUL LINKS

<https://www.mumsmakelists.com/best-kids-party-games/>

- This is a great link for 11 fun games that are simple to set up, don't require you to buy expensive props, and have rules that are simple to follow. You can easily adapt all of the games on the list for kids as young as toddlers up to tweens and teens. You can also easily adapt most of the games for the number of kids joining in the party fun—and of course, you can always select games that compliment the party theme!

STARTER KIT FOR A KID FRIENDLY PARTY

If you'd like to have activities for kids available at your Block Party but don't know where to start, let us know you'd like to borrow a Kid Friendly Starter Kit here.

KITS INCLUDE:

- First-aid kit
- Chalk & painters tape
- Bubble machine
- Big coloring sheets or butcher paper roll
- Double dutch jump ropes
- Variety of balls and yard toys
- "Kids at Play" signage