



picnic planner

Print our handy party-planning checklist to help you plan the perfect party.

Child's Name: _____ Party Date: _____

The Month Before

- Establish a party budget
- Choose the park, outdoor venue
- Set the date and time
- Draw up the guest list
- Send out invitations

Party Time

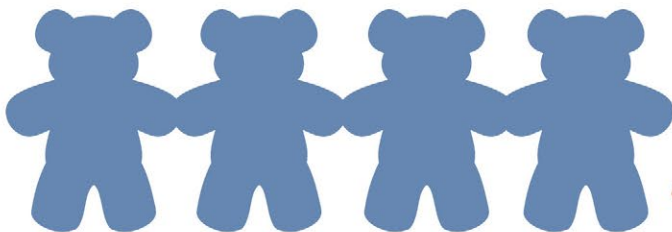
- Set up the party table, games and decorations
- Put up a welcome sign
- Enjoy!
- Don't forget the thank-you notes

One Week Before

- Prepare games and activities
- Do the shopping
- Check your first aid kit
- Charge your camera
- Ensure sufficient crockery, cutlery, tables and chairs
- Follow up on outstanding RSVPs
- Prepare any food that can be made in advance
- Wrap prizes for games and activities

Concertina bear invitations

Fold a piece of coloured paper or card backwards and forwards to form a concertina, then draw an outline of bears on the front (make sure the arms extend to the edges of the paper so that when you cut it out, all the pieces join together – just like paper people). Decorate each figure in a different way, and write the party details across the back – you may need to write across the whole concertina.



For birthday party resources and articles, visit www.childmag.co.za



lunchtime Barni

Now you can make your own lunchtime Barni:

Slice a hamburger bun in half (look for healthy brown buns) and spread these with cream cheese.

Take two slices of ham, roll and place inside the bun, with the ends sticking out for ears.

Place a slice of tomato and half a black olive on top for the nose.

Make eyes from green olives, or use a cucumber round cut in half.



bear cupcakes

Makes 12

Ingredients

- 125g butter
- 180ml caster sugar
- 5ml vanilla essence
- 2 eggs
- 500ml self-raising flour
- 200ml milk

Decoration

- Chocolate icing (bought or made)
- Chocolate buttons
- Mini chocolate digestive biscuits
- White and red jelly beans
- Black writing icing

method

Preheat the oven to 180° C. Line a muffin tin with 10 paper cases. Put the butter, sugar, vanilla essence, eggs, flour and baking powder into the bowl and beat by hand or using an electric food mixer, until smooth. Divide the mixture between the paper cases and cook the cakes in the oven for about 20 minutes, or until they are golden and springy to the touch. Remove the tin from the oven and let the cakes cool for a few minutes, before transferring them to a wire rack to cool completely. Ice and decorate when cool.



rainbow sandwich



method

Spread slices of brown bread with butter. Spread one with guacamole. Place another slice on top of the guacamole slice, butter side down. Spread with butter and sprinkle with finely grated cheese. Top with another slice of bread and spread with butter and salami. Place a final slice on top, buttered side down. Cut the bread into fingers or triangles and secure with a toothpick.

Tip: Use any fillings that will appeal to children, but keep it colourful so that the sandwiches look like rainbows.

outdoor games to play

Pass the Barni parcel

In this popular game, a treasure is wrapped in many layers of paper – usually with a small treat tucked between each layer. You can include **Barni** as one or some of the hidden treats. While music is played, the children (seated in a circle) pass the parcel from one to another. When the music stops, the person holding the parcel unwraps a layer.

Where's Barni scavenger hunt

Children use a list to find objects outside. Make this as varied as possible: a feather, a bottle cap, a **Barni** treat, a flower, a sock (obviously you'll need to hide these beforehand). For preschoolers, lay the objects somewhere handy so it's not too hard for them. Provide a time limit so there is a real sense of urgency.

Pin the butterfly on Barni's hand

Prepare a big picture of **Barni** and as many butterflies as there are children. Each child is blindfolded, spun around two or three times and asked to pin the butterfly on the picture of **Barni**. The winner is the one whose aim is best.

