



STEPHANIE MARK EVENTS

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5 THINGS EVERY KID'S PARTY NEEDS TO BE SUCCESSFUL

When it comes to kids' parties, more isn't always better. The right party length and well-chosen activities can turn a good party into a great one. Use this guide to plan an age-appropriate celebration that keeps kids happy, engaged, and excited from start to finish.

#1 ONE MAIN ACTIVITY

Too many options will make your party lose focus. When there's one clear activity, kids engage longer and the party runs smoothly.

Consider the following activities:

- Bounce house
- Slime bar
- Craft station
- Sports game
- Entertainer



#2 AGE-APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES

Different ages require different entertainment.

- **Ages 3–4:** Movement, music, simple crafts
- **Ages 5–7:** Structured games, free play
- **Ages 8–11:** Interactive stations, competition
- **Tweens:** Experiences (DIY, challenges, themes)



If you'd rather enjoy the party than manage it, we're here to help. Get in touch to start planning your next celebration!

#3 PROPER TIMING

Longer parties don't always mean better. The right length keeps the fun high without pushing kids past their limits. Always leave them wanting more!

IDEAL LENGTHS PER AGE:

- **Under 5 years:** 2 hours
- **Ages 5–8:** 2–2.5 hours
- **Ages 9–11:** 2–3 hours



#4 FOOD THAT FEELS LIKE PART OF THE PARTY

Simple food becomes decor when it's displayed creatively.

- Color-coordinated foods to match the theme
- Food styled in fun, unexpected ways (skewers, cones, trays, towers)
- An on-theme menu (BBQ for Western party, burger/fries/popcorn for a carnival theme)
- Finger foods + individual portions for easy grabbing

#5 END ON A HIGH NOTE

The last 15 minutes matter.

This time should be for cake, a simple wrap-up activity, and distributing favors.

A BUILD BY NUMBER GUIDE TO A SHOWSTOPPING CANDY TABLE



1. **Full-length tablecloth.** Covering the tables legs is essential to creating a visually appealing base to your candy design.

2. **Vessels.** Use an odd number of containers/bowls of varying shapes and heights. For example: Four taller in the back (have some with lids and some without) and three shorter bowls or containers in the front.

3. **Small tongs** for items that are not wrapped and can't be scooped easily (think licorice or sour belts).

4. **Small scoops** for items that need to be scooped (think M&Ms or Jelly Beans)

5. **Tall candy** like licorice, sour straws

6. **Wrapped chocolates.** They can have a matte or metallic wrapper. The wrappers allow you to use on-theme colors

7. **Lollipops!** Depending on the type of event can have styles like tall and twisty, sugar rock crystal, round, spherical, etc. This is a great place to play with color and texture.

8. **Gummies!** Gummy Bears or worms, Sour Patch, Swedish Fish, gummy rings, etc. A layer effect is great here in the taller container. You can alternate a blue gummy bear layer, then a yellow, then another blue layer and so on.

9. **Sour belts!** These lay nicely on a lower dish and come in a variety of colors and flavors.

10. **Chocolate colored candy.** M&Ms or Sixlets in one color or a mix of colors.

11. **Cellophane bags with ties.** A clear bag to hold all the goodies! Can be plain or colored. Use twist ties or custom ribbon. Print or order custom stickers with the event's name or logo.

12. The three purple dots are for areas to add specific theme decor. For a sports party maybe sports cards, mini basketballs, small player figures, etc.

13. **Cards.** Can add folded cards to label candy items.

14. **Backdrop:** A sign or balloons help tie in the theme to the table