



### **Top Three Ways to Guarantee a Tear-Free Birthday Party!**

Moms and Dads know that at every party, at least one kid ends up crying. And sometimes parents cry when they get the bill!!) Here are three helpful hints to help you plan a tear free party!

Tip #1 Determine how many children should be invited to a young child's birthday party

Young children may get overwhelmed if you have several children and adults at the party. If the birthday child is turning between 1-5 years old, the smaller the group the more intimate and memorable and tear free it will be. Additionally, most parents do stay at the parties with their children at this age group which adds to the number of people at the party.

When parents stay at the party?

Several adults in the same room as the party can be distracting. Parents (and I am guilty of this as well) tend to talk and socialize and catch up with friends during the party which is natural and understandable. However, this can lead to the overwhelming part for the birthday child.

Obviously, parents should stay if they are more comfortable staying then leaving. However, you can manage the adults just as you are managing the party. Have a separate area for the adults so they are able to chit chat.

Have food, snacks, drinks in that area so that they can stay and have fun. This way they are not distracting the children who are participating in the party. Everyone is happy!!

Tip #2 Make sure the venue and party theme age appropriate

Games and goody bags should vary depending on the theme of the party. If a party venue or theme is more appropriate for older children, a younger child is not going to have fun playing a game that is not at their age level. If you are having the party at a party destination, ask them what the most age appropriate party is for your child's age. It will save you and your child from being frustrated on their big day.

Tip #3 Determine your budget

This is more so that the parent does not shed tears as they are settling up the bill at the party venue! Decide on a budget and try to stick with it. Sometimes this is harder than it would seem. Many party locations offer different packages. When you call ask the venue the following questions:

- o How many children are included in your party package?
- o What does the package include?
- o What will I be responsible for?
- o Will my child's party be the only party or will there be others at the same time?
- o Do you have any birthday party specials or coupons currently being offered?

Many party locations offer coupons on line and every little bit helps so don't be afraid to ask! Additionally, sometimes you can get better pricing if you are able to have your party during the week instead of during a popular weekend time. You might learn that having a party at a party destination can be as affordable as having it at home, more enjoyable, and better yet...you can leave when it's time to clean up!

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