

Waste-Free Children's Parties

Organising and hosting a children's party can result in a lot of additional waste - most of which will end up in a landfill site. Use the following tips to reduce the amount of waste you produce and to save some money, whilst having a good time with your child/children preparing for the party.

Food

- Buy packets of biscuits rather than individually packaged biscuits
- Buy a bottle of diluting juice rather than individual cartons
- Use reusable plastic plates, cutlery and cups instead of one-use disposables. These can then be used over and over again
- Use a washable/reusable table cloth
- Over-packaged food costs more, as you pay for the packaging. Buy loose fruit and only cut some of it up into portions so if it's not all eaten, it will keep
- Bake your own cake/biscuits to cut down on packaging waste

Decorations

- Make paper chains from used wrapping paper
- Make your own 'Happy Birthday' signs using letters cut out from cereal packets, then painted and strung together. These can be recycled after use, unlike plastic signs

Activities

- Make items that can be used again and again such as painting ceramic plates
- Make party hats from used wrapping paper or newspaper. These can then be recycled once used
- Wrap the 'pass the parcel' parcel using used wrapping paper or newspaper
- Use the back of unused old wallpaper for drawing and painting

Party Bags

- Use paper bags rather than plastic bags. They can then be recycled after use
- Ideas of items to include are items made from natural products such as wooden bracelets
- Things that can be used such as coloured pencils, a reusable straw, card making kits

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