Candy Boxes: How They Can Be Used at Your Next Party by Patricia Ryan

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Looking to blow everyoneâ€™s socks off at your next party? Ditch the typical brownies and cupcake fare for some seriously good candy boxes. A great party doesnâ€™t come together overnight, and so youâ€™r sure to have lots of planning on your hands in order to kick it up a notch. Letâ€™s say youâ€™re planning birthday party for your youngest child â€“ a kid to whom boatloads of candy still seems like the coolest thing in the entire universe. Lucky for your kid, youâ€™re about to get a crash course on boxed candy, and how it can be used at your next party. Think of it this way: every other kid in class will get presents, have a party, have a birthday cake or maybe a dozen cupcakes or so. Not every kid, however, will have a party full of candy boxes. Candy boxes are the thing that will set your kidâ€™s party apart from the rest. Now, letâ€™s begin the planning!

With most parties, especially childrenâ€™s ones, which require a lot of extra pizzazz, itâ€™s best to begir planning about six weeks ahead of time. Giving yourself this much lead time isnâ€™t a requirement, but itâ€™s recommended, as itâ€™s enough time to plan without feeling totally stressed out and rushing arour at the last minute. It allows you to shop for your party supplies at a relaxed place, to check out both Target and Party City to scope out the lay of the land for party favors. It also enables you to send out invitations ahead of time, ensuring that all of your childâ€™s friends will be able to attend the party!

A good rule of thumb for childrenâ€™s parties is to choose a theme. Themes make it much easier to decorate, as you can often by your entire range of party supplies in a given theme; often, they come in one big set, so you donâ€™t have to run around from place to place picking things out. If your party falls around a holiday, such as Halloween, then plan a party that fits the holiday. Birthdays around Halloween, for example, often result in costume parties â€“ where the kids can dress up and take their Halloween costumes for a test drive before the big day. This generally means orange and black decorations and dÃ©cor, and lots of candy! This is where candy boxes can come in handy â€“ you can buy your childâ€™s favorite candy in bulk, and can also purchases boxes of candy to give away in the party favor bags you put together. Buying candy in boxes is a great way to save money; buying in bulk is always cheaper than buying things piecemeal.

When it comes to picking a date for the party, weekends are always better. Saturday afternoons and evenings tend to be a popular time for kidâ€™s parties, as they give you, as the host, enough time to prep on Saturday morning and recuperate and clean on Sunday. Sunday parties work too, but remember, that means youâ€™ll be cleaning up on Sunday night, a night you might generally use to get organized for the week ahead. Leave weekday parties to the older folks; most parents donâ€™t like their kids attending events on school nights. Not to mention, weekday night parties involve working around homework, parentâ€™s schedules, sports games and ballet rehearsals. Weekends, on the other hand, tend to be much more open for families, especially if you follow the six week timeline and plan ahead of time.

Once youâ€™ve secured your theme and your date, itâ€™s time to decide whether youâ€™ll rent out a sp host the party at your own home. Benefits of hosting at home include the opportunity to set up and clean up at your own pace. Plus, youâ€™ll save money â€“ money that can go towards giving your kid a really fantastic party. If youâ€™re splurging on the location, chances are, there wonâ€™t be much left in th budget for party decorations and gifts. At home, youâ€™ll have all your party supplies on hand, and your kid is sure to be comfortable given that theyâ€™ll be at their home base. Some kids have trouble outside of the home, and might not feel as comfortable at a different location.

Once youâ€™ve settled on your location, itâ€™s time to think food. Youâ€™ll want a bunch of snacks, suc chips and pretzels, and some fresh fruit and juice for the kids â€“ plus the birthday cake of your choice, and of course, plenty of candy! Remember, boxed candy is the way to go â€“ you can use it on the cake, stick it in a piÃ±ata, even give it away as a party favor. Take your kid along to the store with you and have him or her pick out a couple of varieties of their favorite candy, then get planning!

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