



Room Party Best Practice Recommendations 2012-2013

Fun need not come from expensive and timely party planning! Low cost activities include utilizing classroom tools, brainstorming with staff and using ideas from other or previous successful room parties in our Brooks and District 204 community. In addition to networking, this recommendation sheet was created to provide you with brief suggestion(s) per grade level. It is always a goal that mixing up learning & games/activities and crafts remind our students that **school is BOTH a place to learn and a place to have fun!**

When planning parties for the younger students, we recommend you divide your activities into “stations.” Recruit enough parents/helpers to work at each station and divide the students into 4-5 students in each group, depending on classroom size. Have the party guests spend 10-15 minutes at a station, and then have a signal for rotation time. Having students make crafts at their assigned desk arrangements also work well, depending on grade level.

Kindergarten:

- Greater student/volunteer ratio; more hands are better for group assistance.

First Grade:

- Keeping things consistent from classroom to classroom is important here.

Second Grade:

- Hands on activities and crafts; independent/paired working may be preferred.

Third Grade:

- Better at following direction & instruction; experiments are always fun!

Fourth Grade:

- Movie or book related craft themes are really enjoyed with these students.

Fifth Grade:

- Stronger mix of intellectual topics in games and crafts to hold interest.

Game/activity suggestions:

Seven-up, Pin Tail on Donkey (varying themes), Bozo Buckets, Musical Chairs, Hallway or Dress-Up Relays (for older grades), soft, themed music is *always* fun to play continuously.

Craft suggestions:

Possibilities are entirely endless – utilize online resources! Keeping them stationed for crafts at their desk works particularly well for the younger-aged classrooms.

Please note: Glitter, sand, fake snow or other “messy items” are discouraged due to messy clean up.