

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Great Ideas from our NC Kindergarten Teacher Leaders!

Have another idea to add? Send it to asmith@dpi.state.nc.us

Each month we have a birthday party for everyone who has a birthday in that month. We sing our special birthday song (we just add a cha, cha, cha" after each line). On the person's birthday they wear the "Birthday Crown" and we also sing during snack. We also make sure to get summer birthdays. Children's names and birthdays are announced on our in-house school news. The PTO also sends them a birthday pencil.

Birthday crowns are given to each child on their special day. We sing and I have a birthday present bag of goodies for them. Parents may come to each lunch with them and bring cupcakes for everyone. In the past, at the end of the month all classes have gotten together and had a snack. Birthday children have had hats and candles in their snack.

We give each child a birthday crown with his/her name on it and sing "Happy Birthday." The parents are invited to send in a small treat to share with classmates, if they choose. This year we requested non-food items in support of the Healthy Child Act. Examples might be a sticker, a pencil or an eraser. We pass these out at the end of the day.

Each child is given a birthday crown on his/her birthday. We sing "Happy Birthday". Our school (PTO) celebrates all birthdays in that month with a party (school wide) at the end of the month.

We have the birthday child stand in the middle of the group. They choose fellow students to be candles (Correct number of kids stand arms up in a circle around birthday child.) The rest of the class and I form an outer circle (the cake). We move the circle around the middle child singing "Happy Birthday!" Last, the birthday child blows out candles as friends fall down.

We sing the birthday song and the child wears the birthday T-shirt.

Sing, sing, sing the birthday song.

Children choose if they want to wear a crown, sticker, etc.





The child receives a birthday crown, a birthday badge, and a goodie bag with pencils, stickers and erasers. At snack we celebrate and sing with child. The child is also the “Helper” for the day!

George the monkey puppet lives in my desk drawer. He comes out on birthdays to personally sing the birthday song to children on their special day.

We sing the Birthday Song, count and give special birthday hugs. The birthday boy or girl is allowed to be a special helper for the day!

We make a class birthday book, instead of a chart. Students love reading and referencing friend’s birthdays. The book is shaped like a cupcake with sparkly paper.

Each child’s birthday is posted on the calendar. On their special day, we sing to them a silly birthday song (Greg & Steve). They are the helper for the day, wear a crown and get a card from the whole class.

Each child’s birthday is announced on a big cake on the whiteboard. We sing, ask about special plans, birthday present wishes and the birthday kid wears a birthday sticker. The birthday boy or girl also gets to pick their “helper job” for the day.

At the beginning of the year, as part of our all about me unit and introductions to graphs, we spend several days talking about birthdays. I share the book *If You Give a Pig a Party* as well as *We Can Make Graphs*. We make a real graph using real candles. Then we make a bar graph by coloring in a block of the month they were born. We also make a pie graph that is the type of graph represented in *We Make Graphs*. We have a birthday celebration celebrating all our birthdays including cake, ice cream, and a class present (usually a new book or game) for the room. For the remainder of the year, on each child’s birthday, we make individual cards for the birthday child.

We do several things school-wide. We have a monthly birthday party where children sit at a special lunch table. On the child’s birthday he/she will have the opportunity to be recognized on our school-wide TV broadcast. In the class, we sing “Happy Birthday” (and if the child wants) my teacher assistant will also sing opera style. We also give the birthday child a birthday crown to wear.

We sing *Babies are Born in the Circle of the Sun* and the birthday child receives a book.

We make a special birthday book for each child on his/her birthday. Each student draws/writes a special page for the birthday girl/boy using the special box of “smelly” makers. At the end of the day, we read it to the birthday child, and the birthday child takes the book home.

The class sings “Happy Birthday”. Each child has a paper cupcake to identify birthday month/day. We make monthly, then yearly graphs of birthdays. The teachers provide “snack” money for a special cafeteria snack. Birthday child wears the birthday necklace so others in the school can also recognize this special day.

Birthday children are brought up for “Happy Birthday” during morning group time and given a choice for the teacher’s gift – (5,7) 6 noogles, (5,7) 6 hugs, or (5,7) 6 kisses on the cheek. They get a birthday sticker from the media center. Parents are given optional opportunity to bring a special treat and/or a birthday book for the class library. Parents are invited to come in and read the book. It gets a special birthday commemorative book plate.

I make a special decorated birthday T-shirt that the birthday child wears on his/her birthday. The child is also line leader and special helper for the day. Of course, we sing “Happy Birthday”.

Each child gets a decorated birthday crown and draws from the birthday box. Parents send special snacks.

We have a basket of birthday related books. Kids choose a book (or another favorite book) to be read on their birthday. They take the book home for the night along with the birthday journal, birthday songs CD and a few other treasures in “The Birthday Take Home Bag”.

We have several school-wide activities for birthdays. All birthdays are announced each morning. We sing to the child in our class. They receive a birthday pencil. The library offers parents an opportunity for a child to donate books with the child’s name inside as a dedication. We have special snacks on birthdays and create cards for the birthday child. Summer birthdays celebrate their half birthday.

The birthday child gets to wear a birthday crown and be the line leader for the day. We share a special snack and the child gets a birthday certificate.



We usually have a special “healthy” snack for the child. Everyone sings Happy Birthday and she/he gets a crown. All day the child gets to lead the line. We take a picture of him/her with the crown and hang it up front.

Each child completes a page for a book. They illustrate their dictation to the end of the sentence: “For your birthday I would like to give you” The birthday child decorates the cover. The pages are bound and the book is sent home. They also take a class book home and complete a page letting us know what they did.

They pick a special hat from the basket and stand them on top of a chair to sing as a class. We have a special birthday snack and they pick a favorite story for me to read while they sit on my lap.

Each child receives a birthday book. We sing a special birthday song to the one who is celebrating a birthday.

The birthday child wears a special crown, is the special helper for the day and gets to choose a gift from the “Birthday Box!”



Favorite Birthday Books

Biscuit's Birthday by Alyssa Satin Capucilli and Pat Schories

A Birthday Basket for Tia by Pat Mora and Cecily Lang

A Birthday for Frances by Russell Hoban and Lillian Hoban

Curious George & the Birthday Surprise by H.A. and Margaret Rey

Happy Birthday, Moon by Frank Asch

If You Give a Pig a Party by Laura Numeroff and Felicia Bond

It's MY Birthday! by Pat Hutchins

Jimmy's Boa and the Big Splash Birthday Bash by T. Noble & S. Kellogg

Lyle and the Birthday Party by Bernard Waber

The Secret Birthday Message by Eric Carle