

**It's a  
Big Day!**

Check out our new web page devoted to celebrating kids' milestones (like turning 6!). Share yours at [Scholastic.com/PCBigDay](http://Scholastic.com/PCBigDay).

# EASIEST BIRTHDAY EVER!

Throwing a party she'll remember doesn't have to break the bank—or take over your entire life. Our planner will have you covered right down to the favors. All you have to add is the birthday girl!

PHOTOGRAPHY BY [Rus Anson](#)

← The kids on our photo shoot couldn't wait to gobble up this edible necklace!





1

2



3



4



*The kids can take a lollipop home after the party!*

## design on a dime

Why spend boatloads on pre-printed decorations? You and the guest of honor can create a cool partyscape with these easy paper projects:

### 1. COLORFUL GARLAND

This fringed number is a breeze to make: Fold several sheets of tissue paper in half lengthwise; then fold in half widthwise two times. Cut the bottom into strips (stop about an inch from the fold). Unfold, separate the sheets, and staple them over string.

### 2. "WALL" CONFETTI

Use your tissue paper (or even your kid's construction paper stash) to create polka dots of all sizes. Use plates, bowls, and glasses as templates; cut out the circles; and stick 'em up with tape or poster putty. (Wanna cheat? Pick up a set of cheap wall decals! We won't tell!)

### 3. CUTIE CUPS

Personalize plain paper cups with stamps! We used a ginormous 6, but your birthday girl can choose to press on her initials, her name, or her favorite whatever.

## no-bake sweets!

You don't have to be a Cake Boss to create a knockout birthday dessert. Just pick up some plain doughnuts or a white-frosted cake and trick them out with these ideas.

### 4. DOUGHNUT DIPPERS

Kids have decorated a zillion cupcakes. But have they done a doughnut? We think not! Set up a dipping-and-sprinkling bar with colored glazes (recipe below) and candies and let the kids create a sweet confection!

#### Basic Glaze Recipe

Pour a one-pound box of powdered sugar into a bowl. Whisk in 3 to 4 Tbsp milk and 1 tsp vanilla. Adjust the consistency by adding more milk to thin or more sugar to thicken; divide into bowls and add food coloring.

### 5. LOLLI-TOPPERS

It doesn't get simpler than this: Pick up some long-stemmed lollipops and stick them in the cake at different heights. Instant dazzle! (We used Star Twinkle Pops from Amazon.com, \$28 for 60).

**GIMME SOME CANDY!**  
If you want to find some especially fun or retro candy, check out [economycandy.com](http://economycandy.com) and [groovycandies.com](http://groovycandies.com) (where you can shop by color or flavor!).

TURN THE PAGE FOR MORE FUN CRAFTS



## fun & games!

These throwback low-tech activities promise the biggest of squeals

### POP IT SKY HIGH!

Think of this as a modern twist on the old cup-and-ball game. Kids will have a blast launching marshmallows in the air—and everywhere! (Play outside if you can.)

#### What You Need

- Paper cups
- Balloons
- Mini marshmallows

1. Cut or tear out the bottoms of the cups (one per guest).
2. Tie off a balloon and snip off the top.
3. Stretch it over the cup, add marshmallows, and POP!

### BALLOON RACETRACK

Set up a few “tracks” and have the kids race in heats (farthest one wins). The champs of each race can compete for gold!

#### What You Need

- Cotton string
- Straws
- Balloons
- Tape
- Clothespins

1. Thread a string (several feet long) through a straw. Tape it between two walls or chairs.
2. Blow up a balloon and clip the end with a clothespin.
3. Tape the balloon to the straw. Remove the clip on the count of three and watch it fly.



Fluuurrrt!  
The oh-so-familiar  
sound will have  
kids rolling!

Learn how to make these toppers at [Scholastic.com/partyhats](http://Scholastic.com/partyhats).

## fantastic favors

We know. Kids loooooove goody bags. But if you're not careful, you could drop as much on those as the whole party—and they just end up on the car floor anyway. This year, opt for party-guest treats they can make and take (with just a little prep by you).

### PARTY HATS!

Go to **Scholastic.com/partyhats** to watch our how-to video for making these sweet toppers. Then, as each guest arrives, bring them to the

“haberdashery” to create their hat. Have a selection of wrapping papers to choose from and lengths of tulle, scissors, and a stapler at the ready.



### PUNCH FOR PRIZES!

You can use this punch board lots of different ways: Game winners can knock out a circle for a prize or guests can punch for their favors as they depart. And it's way easier to make than it looks.

### What You Need

- Large foam core board
- Tissue paper
- Paper bowls
- Tape

1. Trace circles on the back of the board slightly smaller than the bowl rim. Cut out.
2. Tape a piece of tissue paper over each opening.
3. Secure a prize inside each bowl with tape; then tape the bowls face-down over the tissue-covered circles. Flip the board over and it's ready to punch.



### FASHIONABLY TASTEFUL TREAT

This candy is definitely not just for eating!

### Noshable Necklace

Hit the bulk section and pick up a variety of stringable candy. Don't be surprised if their designs disappear before your very eyes!

### Smart Airplane

So easy! Thread a rubber band through two Lifesavers; slip a roll of Smarties in between, then slip in a stick of gum for the wings.