

Sports Party



Use felt to create pennants of pro and college teams as well as your youngster's own team names. Paint a 4-ft. square of cardboard with filled stadium bleachers and pose guests in front for keepsake snapshots.

Favors

Hand out ball caps in your kid's favorite colors instead of party hats; you can even use markers to add an initial or team-for-a-day mascot. At the end of the party, include the hat, with a ball, crayons and markers in team colors and slam-dunk candy favorites.

- Team caps / sports dept.
- Sharpie markers / home office dept.
- Sport bouncy balls and whistles / cards & party dept.
- Candy / grocery dept.
- Markers and crayons / art supplies dept.

Must-have party supplies

- Birthday cake / bakery dept.
- Candles / stationery dept.
- Plates and napkins / stationery dept.
- Tableware and glasses / stationery dept.
- Balloons / stationery dept.
- Garbage bags / cleaning supplies dept.
- Cleaning supplies / cleaning supplies dept.

Decorations

Use construction paper to create pennants of pro and college teams as well as your youngster's own team names.

- Helium tank with balloons / cards & party dept.
- Construction paper / art supplies dept.
- Mini glue gun / art supplies dept.
- Paint / art supplies dept.
- Sports piñata / cards & party dept.

Activities

Get carried away

Each partygoer finds a partner. Stand the kids back-to-back, then place a ball between them so that they have to squish together to carry the ball between them—no hands allowed! Define a finish line with crepe paper; have several heats with different partners.

Prep time: 5 min.

Activity time: 30 min.

The supplies you need:

- Footballs, soccer balls and basketballs / sports dept.
- Crepe paper streamers / stationery dept.
- Whistle / cards & party dept.
- Stopwatch / sports dept.

Spin city

Give each child a turn at bat, but instead of swinging at a ball, they have to stand the bat on the ground, place their forehead on the handle, and walk their body around the bat until dizzy (about 10 turns should do it). Construct a simple obstacle course, or let two dizzy racers aim for a finish line.

Prep time: 10 min.

Activity time: 20 min.

The supplies you need:

- Safe, wide grassy area such as a park or backyard
- Hula hoops / toy dept.
- Plastic cones / sports dept.
- Baseball bats / sports dept.

The bandana bunch

A great game for basketball fans, this activity requires each kid to tuck a corner of a bandana into a back pocket or waistband. Blow the whistle and everyone starts to dribble their ball, trying to steal other people's bandanas while protecting their own.

Prep time: None

Activity time: 30 min.

The supplies you need:

- Basketball court or driveway
- Basketballs or playground balls / sports dept.
- Bandanas / accessories dept.
- Whistle / cards & party dept.

Total fun recall

Cover a poster board with pictures and give guests a few minutes to study it. Hide the poster board, then ask kids to write down every picture they remember, or ask tricky questions to make it even more challenging. Easy to adapt for any party or age.

Prep time: 30 min.

Activity time: 15 min.

The supplies you need:

- Magazines or book for photos / electronics dept.
- Notebooks or paper for each guest / home office dept.
- Pens or pencils / home office dept.
- Special prize (they can be matched to party theme)

For even more fun, include:

- Board games / toy dept.
- Boy/girl/preschool activities kit / toy dept.