

## Fall Party Ideas

**SPAGHETTI GAME** ~ Boil spaghetti noodles until done, drain and rinse noodles, add oil and grapes to noodles for texture-call them "brains". Have several other textured foods with mock names. Be sure to have a cover over each bowl. Blind fold the children and see who can guess the most foods correctly.

**MUMMY RACE** ~ For this game you divide the class up into teams. Then you choose one child from every team to be the mummy. Each team has to wrap up their mummy in a set amount of time, making sure to leave the nose and eye area open. After each team has finished wrapping their mummy then the mummy has to hop (without breaking any of the wrapping) down to the finish line. Then the winning team gets a prize. Make sure to have plenty of paper and to play some music while the game is being played.

**FALL WORD GAME** ~ Hold up index cards with jumbled letters of a fall word (ghost, cobweb, broomstick, skeleton, etc.) displayed. The child who guesses each word first wins a prize.

**FALL RING TOSS** ~ In a Fall version of ring toss, kids stand on a line and try to toss a hula hoop around pumpkins painted with numbers (the higher numbers are further away from the starting line). Three tries for each child. The highest score wins.

**SCARECROW CONTEST** ~ Divide the kids into three or four groups. Have six or eight different old shirts, jeans, hats, bandannas and other accessories in a pile. Give groups 15 minutes to assemble their own scarecrow. Stuff with old newspapers.. Make the face from a blank pillowcase and markers. Prizes for the scariest, funniest, most authentic, and the most likely to scare away crows.

**SNIFF TEST** ~ Dr.Boo begins by passing containers of ingredients for the kids to sniff, explaining how each will be used to make the monster. A few tough-to-guess ingredients that are sure to wrinkle kids' noses include mouse breath (Parmesan cheese), which increases night vision; extract of grasshoppers (pine and nutmeg), which improves long-jumping ability; charred bat's feet (charred wood), excellent for hearing; and owl pellets (dry yeast), great for cunning. See who can guess the most right.

**FALL CHARADES** ~ To put a frenzied twist on a traditional game of charades, write out clues for fall characters on small slips of paper. Gather the kids into two teams and have each kid pick a player to go first. The player has a designated amount of time to read the clue, and act it out until her team guesses the clue. The child from each team to guess correctly picks the next clue.

**BOO-GO** ~ Make Bingo cards up on orange paper with fall words. Use candy corn as markers and when the kids Bingo they have to yell BOO!

**MEET MR. KREEPS** ~ Before the kids arrive place the following 8 slimy foods on plates or in bowls and cover with a box with hand holes cut out. The slimy foods are-- A thick slice of bologna (oversize tongue), a ham chunk in water, like canned ham, (a heart that never beat quite right), a canned halved pear (an unusually small stomach), Cooked ramen noodles rinsed in cold water (some thick, cold veins), canned, whole mushrooms (defective eyeballs), a cauliflower coated with yellow Jell-o (a genius-size brain), pickles cut in half (long, knobby toes), frozen French fries and sliced almonds (ice-cold fingers with dry, brittle fingernails). As you tell the story, have the kid's move from box to box reaching inside for a first-hand experience. See who can guess the most foods correctly.

**DOUGHNUT ON A STRING** ~ Tie a string around a doughnut and then tie the other end around a broom handle or stick and do the same with a few others then you hold the stick up and the kids have to eat the doughnut off without using their hands.

**BUG FISHING** ~ I bought a bean bag type spider (or you could make it), and attached Velcro at each of the "feet" and then cut out felt bugs and you tie the spider on a string to a stick or child's fishing pole and they fish for bugs - then carry them to a bucket and go back for more.

**MUSICAL TOMBSTONES** ~ A spooky variation on musical chairs.

**SPOOKY SPIDERS WEB GAMES** ~ You will need a different colored ball of yarn for each team. Before the party begins, tie prizes for each team at the end of each ball of yarn and hide the prizes. Then unwind the yarn around a room.....around the furniture, under tables, behind the sofa.....creating a spider web of yarn. When the party starts, pass out the loose ends of yarn to the teams. Have them wind the yarn back up into a ball, following it around the room until they find their prizes.

**PUMPKIN BOWLING** ~ You need 6-10 empty plastic 2-liter bottles and a pumpkin. All you do is set the bottles up and take turns rolling the pumpkin into them. The kids really had a great time.

**BEAN BAG TOSS** ~ You need bean bags, wooden jack-o-lanterns with face cut out or plastic pumpkins. Stand behind a taped line and toss bean bags to target.

**PIN THE NOSE ON THE JACK-O-LANTERN** ~ You will need a laminated poster board with a nose less pumpkin-give each child a nose and see who is the closest.

## Winter Party Ideas

**Hand Reindeer** ~ Trace the child's hand on brown construction paper and have the child cut it out. Glue the handprint on a larger piece of paper and let the child decorate the "reindeer".

**Ornament with picture** ~ Use popsicle sticks, old puzzle pieces etc. to make a frame. Take pictures of the children prior to the party. Bring in pictures and have them put into frame.

**North Pole** ~ You need four shoe boxes, a wrapped stand about four feet high with a North Pole sign on top, bowl of candies. Divide into 2 teams. Each child steps into the shoe boxes (skis). They must race to the North Pole, go around it, and are handed a treat by an adult and ski back to the team. Next person in line goes.

**Musical Gift** ~ Wrap a small gift (can be silly or a piece of candy in about 20 layers of wrapping. Play a musical chairs type game where you pass the gift around. When the music stops the person unwraps the first layer-continue until all layers are removed and the winner keeps the gift.

**Tree-trimming relay** ~ Have a race decorating a person like a tree. Divide into 2 teams and give a specified amount of time. Provide decorations and have a "judge" to determine the winner.

**Holiday word game** ~ Hold up index cards with jumbled holiday words. The child who guesses the most is the winner.

**Milk Carton Gingerbread houses** ~ Decorate accordingly

## Valentine Party Ideas

**Heart Hop Relay Game** ~ Divide the kids into two groups. If it is not even, have one child go twice. Give each team a small stuffed valentine heart. Have one child from each team place the heart between their legs and hop to the end of the room and back. They give the heart to the next child in line, and this repeats until each child has had their turn. The first team is the winner.

**Heart Candy Guess Game** ~ Fill a clear container with valentine candy (small hearts, M&Ms, etc.) and count when filling the container. Pass around the container when the children are eating and have them write down their guess on how many are in the container. The one that is the closest takes the candy home.

**Valentine Present Wrap** ~ This Game is a version of the mummy wrap game for Halloween (see the Halloween game page). For Valentine's Day you instruct the children that they are wrapping a valentine gift. When they are done wrapping their "gifts" give them a big red bow to finish the package. You can put the children in pairs or small groups.

**Valentine Relay** ~ For this game, cut one heart for each child (an extra one if there is an odd number of kids). Write a different instruction on each heart for the relay race such as; crawl, hop, walk backwards, etc. Make sure you make two hearts with the same instruction, one for each team. Divide the children in 2 groups (if not even, have one child go twice). Put the hearts at the end of the room in 2 piles. The first player on each team runs up to the pile and takes a heart. The players come back to the group doing what it says on the hearts. When the first players get back, the next players run to their hearts. This repeats until there is a winner.

**Valentine Pictionary Game** ~ Divide the kids into two groups (if not even, have one child go twice). Have one child from each team draw a valentine object on the blackboard while the rest of the team tries to guess what is being drawn. You can have one team draw at a time or both teams draw the picture at the same time or both teams draw different pictures at the same time.

**Musical Chairs** ~ This Musical chairs game can be played with a set of chairs with large red hearts tied to the front of the chairs.

**Pin the lips on Ms. Valentine Game** ~ Create a Ms. Valentine on a large, heavy poster board or cardboard. You can use moving eyes, false eyelashes and pipe cleaners for hair (everything but the lips). Put each kid's name on a pair of red lips cut out of construction paper and place tape on the back. Place a blind fold on the child and have them place the lips on Ms. Valentine.

**Valentine Bingo Game** ~ you can make your own bingo cards with valentine items instead of numbers to call. You could use a February theme to increase the number of items (EX: candy, hearts, doves, Valentines).

**Fishing for Love** ~ You can make a simple fishing game by taking two small cut out hearts (the same size) and taping a large paperclip to one heart, and taping the two hearts together. You can make different size hearts to catch and have each one be good for different "goodies" such as a chocolate kiss or small valentine trinket. You make the fishing pole by taking a short stick (or valentine pencil), tie a string around the end of the stick and tie a magnet to the end of the string. You can buy magnets with holes in the center at most school supply stores.

**Love Coupons** ~ Suggest that children can make love coupons for Mom and Dad or for Grandparents. They can cut out hearts from construction paper and with a pen or crayon, mark down a job on each heart. That heart can be redeemed by the receiver to have the job done. Jobs could be taking out the trash, emptying the dishwasher, setting the table, folding the laundry, or washing windows for Grandmother.

**\*\*For additional Party and Craft Ideas...Search on Google or Pinterest: "room parent party ideas"**