

# Room Parent Suggestions

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Thank you for volunteering to be the room parent of your child's classroom this year! We wanted to help you along by providing ideas from prior room parents for party games, food, and Classroom Donations for the Pancake Breakfast in March. These are only suggestions, and you are more than welcome to invent new and exciting ideas as well. Be sure to always check with your child's teacher before planning anything. Each teacher has his or her own styles and rules, so it is important to communicate with your teacher in advance to determine what will work for that class. Remember to keep all food items within district food guidelines.

Thanks, and have fun!

## **Party Game Ideas:**

- Bean Bag Bucket Toss
- 4 Corners
- Heads up 7-up
- Hot Potato
- Musical Chairs
- Musical Chairs Scavenger Hunt: (good for older 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade) 10 kids sit on chairs in a row. They must go into the crowd & find items when the music starts. When the music stops they must come back to the chairs w/ only 9 left. The person out must do a crazy dance, cheer, or tongue twister, etc. Remaining players have to return items and start again. Keep going like this until 1 person is left & wins!
- Twister
- Halloween: Mummy Wrap Relay Race with toilet paper
- Halloween: Ghost Freeze Dance (use sheets & eerie music)
- Valentine's Day: Dive for Pink Valentine – kids hold a sheet at corners filled with many red & 1 pink Valentine...toss up & find the 1 pink Valentine.
- Holiday Scavenger Hunt around the classroom
- Hula Hoop Contest with music
- Limbo Contest with music
- Chopsticks & Hearts: Line the kids up in teams with chopsticks. Kids have to transfer the heart from one cup to another with the chopsticks to fill up the cup. First team to fill the cup wins. You can also do this game individually instead of teams.
- Bingo: Any form like Holiday or numbers. You can print your own bingo cards & game on DLTK.com in many formats with words, pictures, etc. Laminating helps them last longer.
- Jar Guessing Game: kids have to guess how many of whatever item is in the jar.
- Suitcase Game: Need 2 or 3 duffle bags filled with adult clothing. Divide kids into teams. Each team lines up single file. Each team player must put the clothes on & take off & pass to the next player in their line. 1<sup>st</sup> team to all complete this process wins.
- Coloring sheets, word searches, connect the dots, etc.
- For the older kids, you may want to try a class survey with games ideas for them to vote on & choose for the party

- “How well do you know your classmates?” Set three questions to ask each student about their fellow students. Set up a game show idea with two even teams. Fast round question is one on one. The winner of the fast round is the one who gets the question correct. If both get the question wrong the first to slap the buzzer wins the question and gets to answer the other two questions about that classmate. Each wrong answer gets a strike, each correct answer gets a point. Team with most points wins.

### **Craft Idea's:**

- Beading, picture frames, ornaments, sun catchers, doorknob hangers, quilts, pillows, etc.
- Websites like Familyfun.com have fun/easy ideas or you can order many types of age appropriate crafts at Orientaltrading.com.

### **Party Food Idea's:**

- Fruit Kabobs
- Pretzels
- Pizza (you can order from the School Food Service or for Valentine's Day, Goode & Fresh Bakery has single serving pizza's shaped as hearts)
- Veggie Platter
- Grapes
- Apples
- Strawberries
- Rice Krispie Treats (Costco has a big box)
- Popcorn
- Any 100 calorie pack cookies or snacks
- Mini muffins
- Jell-O cups
- Gogurts
- String Cheese
- Bagels (Einstein does holiday themed bagels)
- Pudding cups (you can decorate for Halloween by using the 100 cal. Oreo packs & crushing cookies to sprinkle on top and add a gummy worm to make a graveyard)
- Frozen fruit bars
- Granola bars
- Sugar free popsicles
- 100 cal. Low fat ice cream cups
- These are just some suggestions. Whatever your choice, please be sure it fits within the District Food Guidelines.

## **Classroom Donations:**

The Classroom Donation is created for auction at the Pancake Breakfast in March. The goal of the donation is to create something that has a family/kid oriented theme so that everyone will be interested in the bidding, not just the adults.

- Sports theme – (Baseball, Basketball, Soccer, Hockey, Dance, Gymnastics, etc.)
- Music theme – ipod, itunes gift card, headphones)
- School theme – Panda or gators
- Spring theme – gardening or skateboarding or any other ideas you may have.
- Doll theme – American Girls or other dolls
- Gift Card theme – What stores do your kids like?
- Toys theme– Zuzu pets or other popular toys
- Crafts theme – You can do any number of things for this one.

Please note that:

- Funding for the baskets comes from contributions collected at the beginning of the school year, and additional donations can be requested. Consider what local businesses might help complete your basket.
- The Classroom Donation does not need to fit into a basket, but please keep in mind that they will be displayed on tables in the halls of Westbrook School. The raffle tickets will be collected in the same boxes used for the Fall Carnival.
- The goal of the PTA is to create a family-friendly, inexpensive event that all families can attend. Raffle tickets will cost \$1.00, and our hope is that the children will be filled with excitement as they decide which Classroom Donations they want.

## **Helpful Hints:**

- On curriculum night, use your volunteer sign-up sheet for parent volunteers.
- Put together a parent volunteer email list for easier communication.

- Communicate with all of your parent volunteers by email or via phone for all class & party needs. Parents are all very willing to help out.
- **On curriculum night, we ask for a \$15.00 donation from each parent, which is used for parties and the Classroom Donation cost.** Feel free to contact the other parent volunteers in your classroom a few weeks prior to the parties to let them know what items are needed. Break down the list by cups, plates, napkins, snacks, games, prizes, craft, etc. Most parents will gladly provide what is needed.
- **Delegate** duties to the parents you know will be attending the party.
- Most parties are 1 hour to 1 ½ hours at the longest. (Kindergarten parties usually last about 45 minutes due to the half day schedule). Breaking up the party into stations usually works well. You can do a craft station, game stations, snack area, etc. Kids rotate every 15 minutes or so to the next station for the allotted amount of time for the party. This usually keeps chaos to a minimum.