

BIRTHDAYS - Celebrate the Healthy Way!

Fun Ideas for Celebrating the Birthday Child:

- Make and Wear;
 - o A birthday crown or party hat
 - o A button, badge or ribbon
 - o A birthday sash
- Assign birthday child a special job for the day;
 - o Teacher's assistant for the day (be the line leader, make deliveries to the office).
 - o Pick the "physical activity" brain break for the day.
 - o Select the book for the teacher to read.
 - o Special show and tell
- Allow child to bring in a special book to read or invite a guest to read aloud.
- All about Me birthday sharing: The birthday child can bring up to five items to share with the class that fit in to a special bag.
- Let the birthday child choose an outdoor or indoor active game for the class to play.
- Give a shout-out to the birthday child during morning announcements.
- Seat of honor- reserve an extra-comfy chair in the classroom for the birthday child to sit in on their special day.
- Sing and dance to the birthday song! Let the birthday child be the leader.
- Classmates each share a kind comment about the birthday child, either verbal or written, and say or read them aloud.
- Birthday child get their picture on a class photo board.
- Class goes on a walking field trip around school with the birthday student leading.

These birthday celebration ideas are from Spokane Public Schools teachers. Great job! A teacher quote:
"All the kids seem to enjoy these birthday celebrations and no one ever mentioned missing out on treats!"

- **Birthday Chalkboard** with questions the child fills in and reads to the class!
- **"Birthday Bag"**: Parents are reminded close to the child's birthday to send in special artifacts (family photo, hobby, craft, sport, favorite book/ stuffy, place they visited etc.). The child gets to share the items in the bag during circle time. Students love it!
- **"I give the birthday child a card from me, the class sings to them and they get special birthday Dojo points"** (look for days throughout the year with no birthdays and fill them with summer birthdays).
- **Birthday Recess or Game**; child gets to choose whether the class gets extra recess or plays a game together.
- **In the morning, I give the birthday child a gift of playdoh** that they get to play with right away at their desks. I also put the birthday bear stuffed animal on their desk for the day. Meanwhile I hand out half sheets of construction paper to all their **classmates and they each make a birthday card for the birthday child**. The children LOVE taking these cards home to treasure!
- **"A decorated birthday table"**; eat lunch with teacher & friend or a parents or close relative.
- **5th graders are selected** to act as "birthday fairies". Toward the end of the school day they deliver non-food treats to birthday students.
- *"I like the idea of a lot of little things throughout the day to remind them that they're special."*