

Parents Party Tips

The entertainer / agency should send you either a contract or a confirmation letter, which contains all the booking information and fees. If something in writing is not offered by the entertainer, it is something that you as a parent should insist on. If for any reason the hired entertainer cannot show up at your party it is their responsibility to find a replacement, with the exception of things beyond their control. (Weather, accident, death, etc.)

As a parent this should be one of the things that you discuss with anyone
Before you hire him or her

2 types of parties Indoors and Outdoors

- ❖ **Indoor Shows** are always much better than outdoors show because there are fewer distractions and the children are sitting in a confined area. Ideally the children should sit on the floor. Fewer obstacles between them and the entertainer, the better. All toys and games should be picked up and put out of view. All breakables should be put in a safe place.
- ❖ **Outside Shows** there are many more distractions for the children. (An airplane, noise of cars driving by, a passing train, the neighbor cutting grass, etc.) Also outside, the tendency is for children to want to run around. For an outside show, please provide a shaded area for the entertainer to do his/her show. The entertainer will be using a lot of energy during the show and in the extreme heat and humidity this is not an easy thing to do under the blaring sun. Also keep in mind that your party might not be the first party they the have had to perform outdoors that day. There should be blankets or chairs for the children to sit on. Also the children should be wearing sunscreen, a hat for their own protection and bug spray near by. Toys should be picked up and out of view, and the children should sit facing away from any swing set.

The day for the party has finally arrived. You're going crazy with all the last minute details. The invited guests start to arrive hosting duties begin. Your entertainer arrives. Some will have to arrive early in order to set up for the party. If possible try to keep the children in another room while they are setting up. When the performer is all set up, the children can be brought in.

Children have a very short attention span. The best way to keep the children's attention is by keeping distractions and disruptions to a minimum. A few simple rules will help the performer greatly.

1. At least **one adult** should be present in order to control any children that may be misbehaving or causing a disturbance. ***Remember that you have hired someone to perform not baby sit.** If the entertainer has to constantly ask the children to sit and be quiet, then he/she is no longer an entertainer. They become

a disciplinarian and the entire flow of show suffers. Sometimes the birthday child's parents cannot be in the room where the entertainment is taking place. In those cases, they should ask one of the other parents to watch over the children. The children should not be allowed to touch anything belonging to the entertainer. Some things break easily, is expensive items and others may be dangerous for them to touch.

2. Please don't give the children food, snacks (especially Cheezies) or drinks during the show, because it is a distraction, their enthusiasm may suffer and could create a mess.
3. Noise is also a major distraction for the children. Music and TV should be turned off. In addition, cell phone conversations should take place in another room.
4. Adult background conversation should take place in another room. For an entertainer to try and talk louder than 30 talking adults is very difficult. If the children can't hear, they will not enjoy the show.
5. There should be no smoking in the house either before or during the show. In houses where people smoke a lot, the house should be properly aired out the day before the party. First there is the health risk of second hand smoke and the props and clothing of the entertainer absorb the smell. Although clothes can be cleaned, props are much harder to do so and retain the smell for days afterwards.

Together with your help, your child can have a most memorable party