



Exclusively at Birthday Express

Construction Pals Party Planning Guide

Recommended for ages 1-4
BirthdayExpress.com

1-800-BIRTHDAY (1-800-247-8432)

Party Checklist

4-6 Weeks Before the Party

Select Date: _____ **Time:** _____
Place: _____

Plan a safe, inviting place for kids to have fun. Set time to **2-3 hours** for young children, and **3-4 hours** for older kids.

Create Guest List
Just fill out the handy list in this guide!

Order [Party Supplies](#), [Favors](#) & [Party Activities](#)
BirthdayExpress.com is the place! You'll find over 150 party themes, with party pack options for all of them. Expecting more guests? Choose our Pack Add-On option.

Order Birthday [Costume/Outfit](#) & Gifts
BirthdayExpress.com has lots of fun choices. Look for our costumes, T-shirts, hats and special birthday gifts designed to match our party themes.

Book Entertainment (optional)

2 Weeks Before the Party

Order Cake
Schedule to pick it up one day before the party.

Mail [Birthday Invitations](#)
Let the birthday child help by adhering the stamps and putting the invitations in the mailbox.

Create List of Parent Phone Numbers
Keep on hand in case of emergency.

Plan Party Menu
Check out the recipes in this guide. Ask parents if kids have any food allergies.

Choose [Party Games](#) & Collect [Party Supplies](#)
This guide has ideas that match your party theme!

2-3 Days Before the Party

Prepare Cameras
Check batteries. Charge video camera. Buy film or video cards. Get Birthday Message Cameras for the kids to use.

1 Day Before the Party

Make Food & Drinks, Bake/Get Cake, Buy Ice
Set out chilled/heated foods just before kids eat.

Childproof & Decorate Party Area
Remove breakable items and objects that could prevent guests from moving freely. Decorate with balloons, crepe paper, and other items included in your party pack.

Set Up [Party Games](#), Fill [Favor Boxes](#) & [Piñatas](#)
Invite your party child to help!

Party Day!

Fill [Birthday Balloons](#) with [Helium](#)
Waiting till party day ensures they float well. Gather in bunches, and attach to your front door and the birthday child's chair with curling ribbon.

After the Party

Send [Birthday Thank-You Notes](#)
Include party photos!

Groundbreaking Games

Fill the Bucket

Estimated time: 25 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$10.

Supplies:

- 2 buckets or large bowls of equal size
- 1 spoon or small shovel for each guest
- pile of sand next to each bucket (make sure you have enough to fill both buckets)

The foreman needs helpers with this fun party game, and your guests make the perfect crew! This game can also be played in a sandbox. Divide your party guests into two teams. Have each team sit around their bucket. When you say "go," each team must try to fill their bucket the fastest, using only their spoons.

Digging for Buried Treasure

Estimated time: 30 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$8.

Supplies:

- sandbox
- small [favor prizes](#)

Construction workers have to dig up the ground before they can build anything. Hide a number of small toys in a sandbox and have your party guests dig through the sand in search of fun treasures. If you don't have a sandbox, try hiding the items around your party area or yard instead. Our [flashing safety lights](#) are fun to find.

Bulldozer Piñata

Estimated time: 25 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$21.

Supplies:

- [bulldozer piñata](#)
- [piñata fillers](#)

Piñatas are always a hit at birthday parties. Treat everyone to a [bulldozer piñata](#) that matches your child's party theme. Remember to add the [piñata fillers](#), too.

Rock Quarry Bean Bag Toss

Estimated time: 30 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$20.

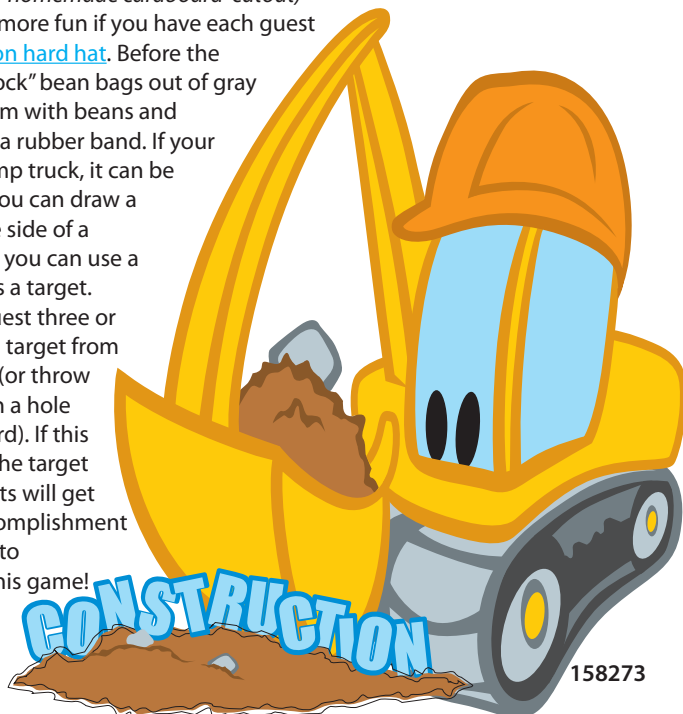
Supplies:

- gray socks (2 pairs)
- dried beans
- rubber bands
- toy dump truck (or homemade cardboard cutout)

This game is even more fun if you have each guest

wear a [construction hard hat](#). Before the party day, make "rock" bean bags out of gray socks by filling them with beans and closing them with a rubber band. If your child has a toy dump truck, it can be the target. If not, you can draw a dump truck on the side of a cardboard box. Or, you can use a [bulldozer piñata](#) as a target.

Give each party guest three or four tries to hit the target from about 5 feet away (or throw the "rocks" through a hole cut in the cardboard). If this is too easy, move the target farther away. Guests will get a real sense of accomplishment when they're able to successfully play this game!



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Break-Time Snacks

Dump Truck Wheels

Estimated time: 30 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$18.

Ingredients:

- English muffin for each guest
- hot dog for each guest
- 16-oz. can of baked beans
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Split English muffins in half and arrange on a cookie sheet. Spread beans on top of the muffin halves. Sprinkle cheese on top of the beans. Cut hot dogs into thirds, then cut each lengthwise into four strips. Arrange 6 hot dog strips for wheel spokes on top of each muffin. Bake at 375 degrees for 10-12 minutes, or until cheese melts.

Crank Case Oil Sundaes

Estimated time: 30 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$15.

Ingredients:

- vanilla ice cream
- chocolate syrup
- chopped nuts*

Supplies:

- red construction paper
- toothpicks
- glue

Tell guests this treat looks like it's covered in oil from a dump truck's engine! Make sundaes and top them with chopped nuts. (*Check with parents before the party to inquire about possible nut allergies.) Then add a toothpick with a homemade red construction paper "stop sign" glued to the top. The kids will love that extra special touch, but nothing will stop them from eating these tasty sundaes.

Construction Crew Blue Punch

Estimated time: 20 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$8.

Ingredients:

- 2-liter bottle of lemon-lime soda
- quart of lime sherbert

Supplies:

- blue food coloring
- ice cube trays
- punch bowl

After guests have worked up a thirst, quench it with this colorful, cool drink. Before the party, add drops of blue food coloring to ice cube trays filled with water. Freeze overnight. When it's time to serve, add scoops of lime sherbert to a large punch bowl, pour in the lemon-lime soda, and add ice cubes to give the punch a neat blue hue. Let punch sit for a few minutes so sherbert can soften. For added novelty, serve in our exclusive [construction cone cups](#). They're fun to sip from, and make super take-home party favors!



Got Everything?

Glance through the list below to see if you're missing any important items. Many can be found on the [Construction Pals party theme page](#).

- [Party Pack Add-On](#) – for extra guests: includes invitations, plates, cups, forks, spoons and napkins
- [Piñata & Fillers](#) – for every theme!
- [Standups](#) – for fun photos with kids' favorite characters
- [Personalized Banner](#) – for every occasion
- [Party Activities](#) – many match our party themes
- [Party Music](#) – helpful during games, and to create a festive atmosphere
- [Helium Tank](#) – made of recyclable materials; check with your city for proper disposal
- [Party Favors](#) – fun take-home prizes

Party Guest List

This handy list will help you keep track of R.S.V.P.'s, and who you've sent thank-you notes to. Want to invite more guests? Simply extend the list!

Guest	RSVP	Thank-You	Guest	RSVP	Thank-You
1. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	14. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	15. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	16. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	17. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	18. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	19. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>	20. _____	Yes / No	<input type="checkbox"/>