

Save Time And Money Planning A Child's Party

(NAPSA)—Planning a child's birthday party can be fun, but also time consuming and expensive. Fortunately, a free downloadable online birthday kit offers everything you need for a top-rate themed birthday party.

Birthday Central offers 15 different themed party ideas. The birthday child can choose a favorite theme including type of cake, snacks, decorations, activities and games. Every theme also has a section for printable party accessories including name tags, invitations, place cards, posters, thank you notes, coloring pages and mailing labels—which can be personalized for the party guests. This provides a creative, interactive activity for you and your kids.

From a T-Rex Birthday Cake for a dinosaur party to a Red, White and Blueberry Shortcake for a backyard Olympics party, the recipes can sweeten the special day.

If the child prefers a party featuring a licensed cartoon character, parents can get really crafty and opt for a mix-and-match theme. The child can choose a favorite character and match that character with a theme from the Birthday Central site.

For instance, if your child prefers a party based on a popular children's movie such as Disney's *The Lion King*®, parents can add some ideas found in the Jungle Jamboree theme, including these clever cupcakes:

Cupcake Critters

- 1 cup firmly packed Domino Light Brown Sugar**
- 1 cup Domino Granulated Sugar**
- $\frac{2}{3}$ cup butter or margarine, softened**
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt**
- 3 ozs. unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled**



Keep the critters happy at your next kids' party with the help of these Cupcake Critters and a jungle-theme party.

- 2 eggs**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla**
- $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups all purpose flour**
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons baking soda**
- $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups chilled water**
- Buttercream Frosting (below)**
- Assorted food coloring**
- Assorted candies such as licorice shoestrings, chocolate pieces, marshmallows in different sizes, gumdrops, etc.**

Preheat oven to 350° F. Line 24 muffin cups with paper baking cups. Beat sugars, butter, salt and chocolate in large mixing bowl at high speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs and vanilla; continue beating 1-2 minutes until well mixed. In small bowl, stir together flour and baking soda. Add to chocolate mixture alternately with water, blending well after each addition. Fill muffin cups $\frac{2}{3}$ full. Bake 18-22 minutes or until toothpick

inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely in pan. Prepare frosting.

To Prepare Buttercream Frosting: Combine in large bowl, confectioners sugar, butter, milk and vanilla. Beat at medium speed 1-2 minutes until creamy. If desired, add more milk until frosting is spreading consistency. Decorate with candies to make your favorite jungle animals.

Other themes available on the site include:

- Backyard Olympics
- Camp Out Party
- Carnival Party
- Dinosaur Party
- Garden Tea Party
- Glamour Party
- Hawaiian Luau
- Princess Party
- Scavenger Hunt
- Sports Mania

For more ideas and information go to Birthday Central at www.dominosugar.com/birthdays.