



Your Science Week Party – Activity Ideas

Here are some ideas for Science Week Party fun and games that will get your class designing and making, investigating and using their science and maths skills. You can pick and choose from the menu of ideas and get junior and senior classes involved.

Science Week Party Venue

Where will the party be? This all depends on who you are inviting, is the party for all classes? Will you invite parents and other visitors along on the day? Will your party be inside or outside? Here are some activities to help you:

- Use your maths skills to estimate how many people you could fit into the classroom or the school hall or yard.
- With all the fun and games how can you keep the noise down? Use these activities to investigate sound insulation or ear protectors for your smaller guests! Watch:
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/flash/act21/act21_launch.htm
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/Sound_Insulation_Younger.pdf (juniors)
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/Sound_Insulation_Older.pdf (seniors)

Decorating your Venue

It is important to have the party venue looking great on the day. Here are some ideas to help make that happen:

- Blowing up balloons can be hard work so try the follow up activity here:
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/teachers_pop_top.pdf
- Decorate your class with colourful, spinning, snake spirals:
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/snake_spiral.pdf
- Decorate your class with science week themed lava lamps:
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/seai_chemical_energy.pdf
- Make your own bubble mixture and wands for your guests:
http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/visitmuseum/Plan_your_visit/events/science_shows/bubbles_bubbles_bubbles/making_perfect_bubbles.aspx



Party Games

Make sure to plan some party games with a science twist: Here are some ideas:

- Get your party off with a bang! Design and make party poppers using the ideas here: http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/make_a_rocket.pdf
- Investigate the best material for a blindfold and play blind man's bluff, or make your own bubble mixture: http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/visitmuseum/Plan_your_visit/events/science_shows/bubbles_bubbles_bubbles/making_perfect_bubbles.aspx
- Design and make your own wriggly worm party game and investigate static electricity while you are at it: http://esero.ie/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/48_How-far-can-you-jump.pdf
- Play pass the parcel: http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/pass_the_parcel_activity.pdf
- Hold a competition to see who can spin the penny the longest and investigate centrifugal force: <http://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiments/spinning-penny/>

Party Food and Drink

Food and drinks are vital components of any party, now's your chance to push the boat out a bit. Here are some ideas:

- Bake fairy cakes or make Rice Krispie buns as a great way to investigate materials, heat and change.
- Investigate the bubbles in fizzy drinks: http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/dancing_raisins.pdf
- Investigate for starch in the birthday cake and other party food: http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/exploring_starch.pdf

Clothes

So what will you wear?

- Design and make a Science Week Party hat, the crazier the better.
- Investigate the properties of clothing and design the perfect party outfit.
- Why not adapt this investigation of children's coats to investigate party clothes? http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/dpsm_class_activity_coats.pdf
- Think about what your party would be like in Space: http://esero.ie/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/20_A-real-spacesuit.pdf

Birthday Presents

Everyone loves presents so why not make some for your class mates, for other classes or for your families so they can join on the Science Week celebrations?

- Make a magnetic car race game http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/sci_at_home_magnetic_race.pdf
- Design and make a jack-in-the box or scary monster toy http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/dpsm_class_activity_air_water.pdf
- Make a telescope http://esero.ie/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/35_Make-your-own-telescope.pdf

Party Music

No party is complete without music, so why not make your own?

- Design and make your own percussion instruments, play musical chairs and investigate sound!
http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/investigating_sounds.pdf
- Make a bottle xylophone orchestra and play happy birthday!
<http://www.science.ie/assets/media/Resources/Primary%20Schools/2012%20activities/2012-Science-Week-bottle-xylophone.pdf>

Furniture

- Design and make weird and wonderful party furniture using Amazing Triangles
<http://www.primaryscience.ie/media/pdfs/col/triangles.pdf>

Cross Curricular link ideas

Here are some ideas to link your Party to other subjects during Science Week.

English

- Read about different parties; the Mad Hatter's Tea Party or this 'Space Scoop' about a bubbly celebration in space <http://www.eu-unawe.org/kids/unawe1524/> or write your own stories about party time travel!

Arts Education

- Design and make Science Week Party invitations, birthday cards, bunting and decorations.
- Design and make your own Science Week Pinata! <http://familycrafts.about.com/od/makeapinata/a/papermachepinata.htm> using a paper bag <http://familycrafts.about.com/od/paperbagcrafts/ss/PBpinata.htm#step5> or papier mache and balloons to get the party atmosphere going. You could even make a solar system of Planet Pinatas.
- Create a classroom play about a Science Week Party on the Space Station. Imagine what it would be like with everyone and everything floating around. Let your imaginations and humour run wild!

SESE Geography

- How are birthdays celebrated in other countries? Why not do some research to help you

SESE History

- What kind of celebrations did people have in ancient times? How did parents and grandparents celebrate their birthdays? How have parties changed, stayed the same? What does this tell us about party celebrations in the future?

