



Pirate Party Games

Games to Play



The games we played at our party were a big success! The party lasted 2 hours and we had just the right amount of activity for 5 kids, if we kept things moving. When the kids first arrived we greeted them on the front porch with a choice of costume pieces. It was fun getting all dressed up! (You can google "pirate costumes" for ideas.) I had found five plain colored T shirts at Albertson's for

\$2 each and cut them in various ways to make them look like vests or raggedy tops. Each child got a shirt, an eye patch, a sash, a square of fabric to tie around their head or their waist and maybe earrings, necklaces or belts. I had bought plastic recorder flutes at the Dollar Store and covered them with foil to make swords. One child brought his own hat and sword, so the motely crew was rarrin' to go! A line of "Treasure Bags" stood ready on the piano so each child could take home any treasures they got during the party. We started off with a bang and kept going! The last game was the Treasure Hunt, which led to their meal and the birthday fun! It was quite a production, but planning ahead helped and hearing someone tell their parent that the party was "awesome" made it all worth while!



Go Fish

What's Needed?

- Fishing rod, equipped with twine and clothespins
- Fence to "fish" over that the kids can't see through
- One gift for each child

Helper to stand on the other side and attach gifts



Preparation

Prepare the fishing rod so it can be used to fish for gifts. Make twine about 3-4 feet long. Have gifts labeled and hidden away in a bag with each child's name so they will get the most appropriate gift. Have your helper already behind the fence when you bring



Go Fish, continued...

Presentation

1. Tell the kids that pirates sometimes have to fish in order to get something to eat, so they are going to try to bring in something good. Show them the fishing pole and explain how it will work.
2. Have them line up, giving the rod to the first child. Let them throw their line in the water (over the barrier), mentioning the child's name so your helper knows which gift to give.
3. Your helper can have some fun with them, giving an old shoe or pulling on the line a bit, but eventually everyone will get their gift.



Walk the Plank

What's Needed?

- Blindfold
- 2 x 4 board on a flat surface
- Spoon
- Small Potato or other round object

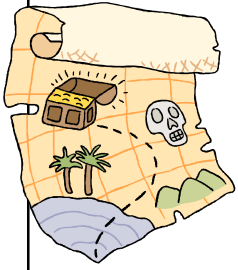
Preparation

Lay the 2 x 4 flat on the ground in an area where there is enough room for the kids to gather.

Presentation

1. Have kids line up. One at a time, tie on the blind fold, hand them the spoon with the potato in it and tell them to walk the plank, trying to walk the whole length of the plank without stepping off.
2. We didn't have any winners for this game, but just had fun with the experience, but you could have them keep doing it until you have one person who never steps off and never drops the potato. To make it more difficult you could have them carry one spoon and potato in each hand.





Digging For Treasure

What's Needed?

- Blindfold
- Large bowl
- Medium sized bowl
- Large spoon
- Cotton balls and little colored craft balls
- Golden coins (these can be purchased online or at a party store)



Preparation

Fill the bowl with 1-1/2 to 2 bags of cotton balls, mixing in colored balls. Place it on the floor where there is room for all the children to gather.

Presentation

1. Have kids sit on the floor around the "Bowl of Treasure."
2. Explain that each one will have a chance to dig for treasure with the big spoon. They are going to be blindfolded, then have 5 chances to dig the spoon into the cotton balls and transport spoonfuls of treasure over to the other bowl. They can feel the edge of the other bowl but can only use one hand for "digging."
3. Every colored ball that they get into the smaller bowl represents treasure and they may have that many golden coins as their prize. Since the balls are so light, they cannot feel how they are doing.





Treasure Hunt

What's Needed?

- Maps (see instructions, below)
- Treasures



Preparation



To make the paper for the maps, follow these directions.

1. Tear pieces of printer paper all around the edges, then crumple up as tightly as you can. Do more pieces than you think you will need and do some small ones if you want to make any little messages.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Flatten papers out and place on cookie sheets. Pour on some coffee or tea and allow to soak for 5 minutes.
3. Pour off and put sheets in the oven for 5 minutes or until paper is starting to come up off the pan. Cool.

Plan the places where you will hide maps. Five locations are about right. Make little sketches on scratch paper of how the maps will look before you make your final drawings. Think of creative names for places around your property such as 'Robber's Rest' for the couch, 'Captain's Quarters' for the master bedroom, 'Blue Lagoon' for the bathroom, 'Pirates Galley' for the kitchen, 'Gate of Doom' for your gate, 'Crocodile Cove - Danger!' for the driveway, 'Treasure Dump' for the garage, etc. Draw a very general design of your house, making it look a little like an island, then name the places. Your XX's and a dotted line will indicate where they are to go next. See our samples.



At some locations you can have just a map, and at others you can put the map in a box along with a "treasure" such as snack bags of Sinbad's Snacks (trail mix, see recipe), Gold Nuggets (cheese cubes) or little messages on papers. For the messages we chose Bible verses, such as "Wisdom is more precious than jewels," "How precious is your steadfast love, O God!" "Rich people are to be generous and ready to share," "... and you will have treasure in heaven..." The final map directed the kids to go to a spot where there was a big shiny bag with a message inside telling them to go in the house to get their meal! Our helper got the food out quickly so it would be ready by the time they arrived. You could choose instead to have some sort of treasure box with gifts inside if you want to serve the meal another way.

