



Exclusively at Birthday Express

Horse Power Party Planning Guide

Recommended for ages 3-10
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!

Horse Play

Horse Mural

Estimated time: 5-10 minutes each child. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$10.

Supplies:

- wide sheet of butcher paper and tape
- pictures of horses
- paints, markers, crayons, stamps, etc.

Few kids will resist a chance to draw on the wall. But don't worry—you won't have to repaint the room! Just tape a wide sheet of butcher paper on the lower portion of your wall so kids can reach. Spread out picture samples of horses for ideas (you can use items from your party pack), and provide paints, markers, etc., for your budding mural artists. (This is a perfect activity to keep kids entertained while other guests are still arriving.)

Hidden Horses

Estimated time: 25 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$5.

Supplies:

- [mini plastic horses](#) or [horse bean bags](#)

The horses have escaped from their corral, and the kids need to help them find their way back home. Before the party, take time with your child to hide the horses around the yard or in a room. At the party, let kids loose to look for the horses until all of them have been rescued. Let kids know beforehand how many horses they each get to find and keep.

Wild Apple Tree

Estimated time: 25 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$6.

Supplies:

- small apple (with stem) for each child
- string

Kids get to act just like wild horses at feeding time. Tie a piece of string securely around each apple stem. Hang from a household fixture, tree branch or swing set. Be sure apples hang low enough for kids to take bites without using their hands. It'll be challenging to keep the apples still long enough to eat them, and funny too!

Mustang Roundup

Estimated time: 25 minutes.

Some Westerners have moved into town, and they need new horses; their only choice is to rustle up wild mustangs. First, choose one or more kids to be the rustlers. Everyone else is a mustang. When the caller shouts "Corral 'em!" the rustlers try to catch the mustangs. Those who are caught go to a designated area called "the corral," where they must stand perfectly still, with legs straddled. To be freed, one of their mustang buddies needs to crawl between a child's legs. The game ends when everyone's been caught, or when it seems like a good time to switch players.



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Horse Feed

Trailblazing Taco Bar

Estimated time: 25 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$20.

Ingredients:

- tortilla shells and fillings (shredded cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, etc.)
Set up a huge taco bar, full of yummy fixings. Give kids crispy corn tortilla shells, pre-warmed in the oven. Then, enlist adults to help them stuff shells with delicious fillings.

Trail Mix

Estimated time: 10 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$15.

Ingredients:

- raisins, pretzels, chocolate chips, cereal, nuts (check for allergies first)
Mix up any of the above ingredients to create a healthy trail treat kids can munch on throughout the party. Yum!

Campfire S'mores

Estimated time: 20 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$10.

Ingredients:

- chocolate chips, marshmallows, graham crackers
It's easy to make these old favorites, even if you don't have a real campfire. Just use your microwave! Simply place a spoonful of chocolate chips on a graham cracker half, top with a marshmallow, and heat in microwave approximately 1 minute. (Keep on plate or paper towel.) Then put other graham cracker half on top.

Canyonland Cocoa

Estimated time: 20 minutes. Estimated cost for a party of 8: \$15.

Ingredients:

- hot chocolate mix
- milk
- ground cinnamon (½ tsp. per mug)
- cinnamon sticks
- whipped cream
- chocolate bar

Whether or not the kids come in from a long ride, they'll loving cozying up to hot mugs of this cocoa. First make the hot chocolate in a saucepan. Then stir in ground cinnamon. Pour into mugs; top with whipped cream; and add a cinnamon stick. Create chocolate shavings by scraping top of bar with a butter knife. Sprinkle on top, and serve.



Got Everything?

Glance through the list below to see if you're missing any important items. Many can be found on the Horse Power party theme page.

- [Party Pack Add-On](#) – for extra guests: includes invitations, plates, cups, forks, spoons and napkins
- [Personalized Banner](#) – for every occasion

- [Piñata & Fillers](#) – for every theme!
- [Party Activities](#) – many match our party themes
- [Helium Tank](#) – made of recyclable materials; check with your city for proper disposal

- [Standups](#) – for fun photos with kids' favorite characters
- [Party Music](#) – helpful during games, and to create a festive atmosphere
- [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"/>