

Emma's Birthday Party

Story By: Andrew Frinkle

Emma was having her birthday party at the park. She was turning four. Her parents and her sister went to the park early to set up. One good thing about the park was that they had a lot of tables. They also had a covered pavilion, in case it rained. Emma planned on getting wet anyway, because they had slides, and they had a water sprinkler area for people to run through.

They covered tables with pink and red tablecloths. They put out napkins, cups, forks, and plates. Then they put out the food, but left it covered until later. Dad made sure there was enough ice with the drinks. It was going to be hot, so people needed cold drinks! Finally, they hung some decorations.

Mom set out some activities, like coloring and small games, before people arrived. There were mini water guns, too! There was even a giant cardboard castle for people to color with crayons and markers. It was going to be great.

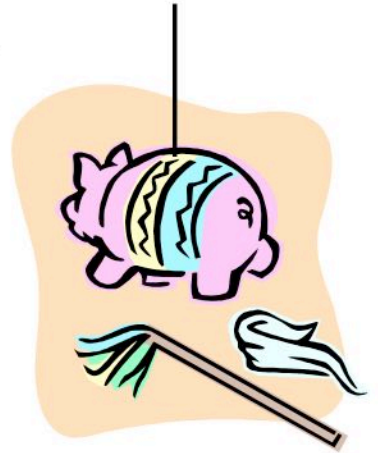
Everyone started to show up. Gifts in pretty bags and boxes started to pile up on the table. Kids started to play with a football, with the games, and with the water guns. Everyone started to eat, too. There were sandwiches, chicken fingers, veggies with dip, chips, soda, and lots of things!

After everyone ate, it was time for a piñata. The kids took turns smacking the piñata with a stick until it broke. Emma took the first turn, then the other boys and girls tried. When candy and toys fell out, everyone grabbed as many as they could!



Finally, it was time to sing 'Happy Birthday' and eat cupcakes. Emma made a wish, blew out her candle, and took a big bite of her cupcake. Everyone cheered and ate their own cupcakes while she opened presents. She got lots of nice toys and clothes, and she was very happy.

When the party was over, Emma was a little sad, because it was over, but very happy. She started to wonder what NEXT year would be like...



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Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. How old is Emma turning?
 - A. three
 - B. four
 - C. five
 - D. six

2. TRUE OR FALSE: Emma's family has to set up before the party.
 - A. True
 - B. False

3. Which of these is NOT something to eat at the party?
 - A. pizza
 - B. chicken fingers
 - C. sandwiches
 - D. veggies and dip

4. Which of these is NOT an activity at the party?
 - A. hit the piñata
 - B. play in the sprinklers
 - C. play board games
 - D. play with water guns

5. How does Emma feel after the party?
 - A. She's completely happy.
 - B. She's crying and sad.
 - C. She's a little sad, but also happy.
 - D. She's scared of next year.

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