



Smartie Artie

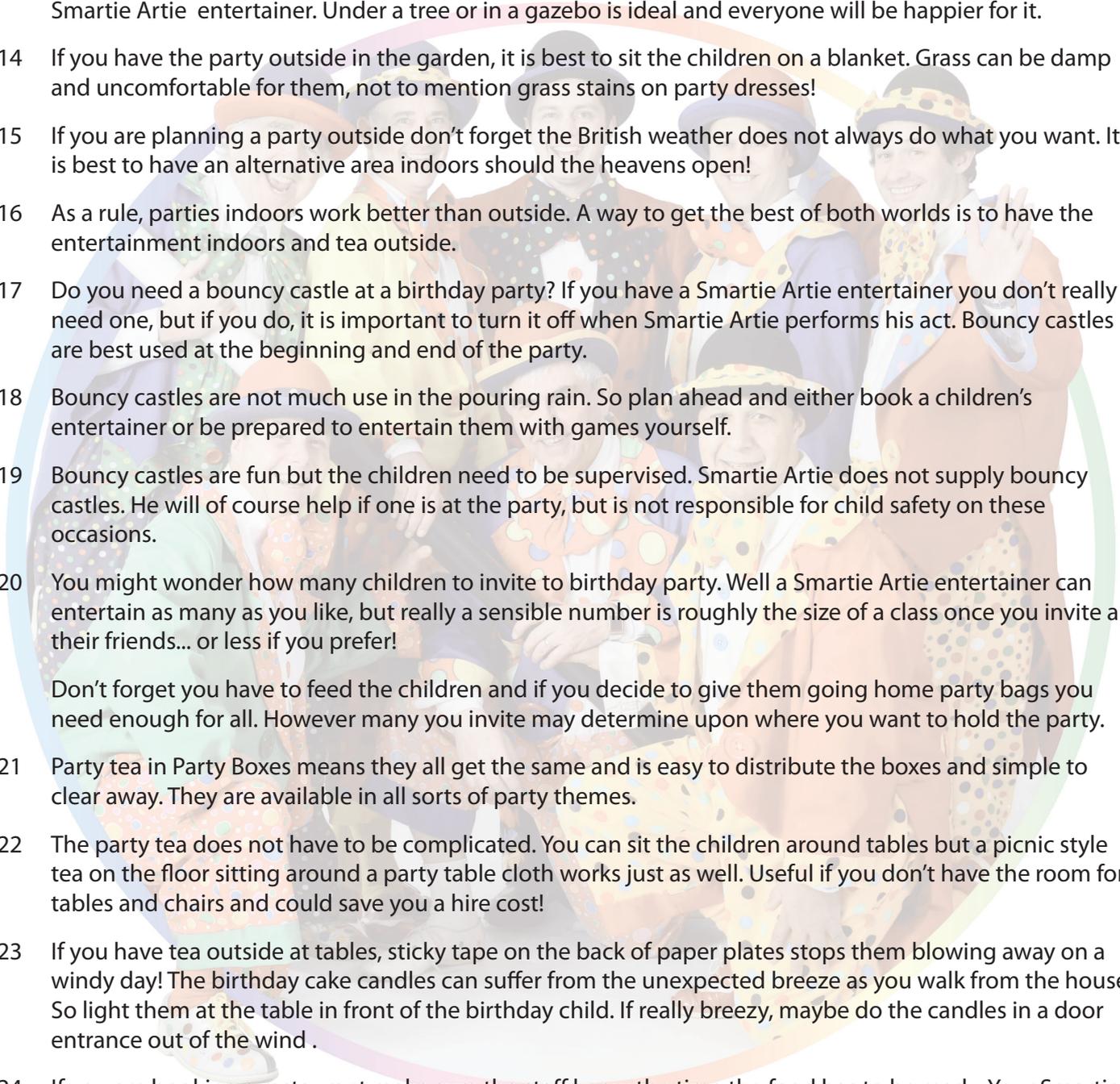
Party Tips

Your Guide to the Perfect Party!

You can't have a children's party without balloons, children just love them don't they!

Well Smartie Artie is expecting them to be part of the party mix but here are few tips to make the party better.

- 1 Do tie balloons to front doors, village hall entrances and anywhere visible from the road, make it easy for your guests to find the party!
- 2 Balloons are a great way to help your guests and Smartie Artie to find you. Smartie Artie travels all over London and often rural locations, so balloons at the end of a drive tied to a gate can be very useful.
- 3 DO NOT have loose balloons on the floor or helium balloons on strings left in the middle of the room. Balloons are fun but when you need to settle a group of children this is sure way to disrupt the whole process and you can be sure they will get burst... even before the party has got started!
- 4 Do use balloons to decorate the room and keep some back for the end of the party for them to be taken home.
Put them on walls or anywhere out of reach. Helium balloons can be tied to chairs at the tea table. A simple way is to make a small loop in the string and slip it onto a chair leg.
- 5 And remember if you have helium balloon they can be lost! It has been known for the whole lot to float away as the parent removed them from their car!
It is a good idea to tie them to child's wrist or party bag when they go home for the same reason.
- 6 Many parties are disrupted or ruined by stray balloons and it really is so simple to avoid the pitfalls to make the Smartie Artie party a better one.
- 7 When booking a hall a smaller one is better than a large one. It is a bit of myth that a big hall is best! It is much easier to control a group of children in smaller area. Some of the bigger halls can be noisy and not to mention colder in the winter!
- 8 When you have a party in a hall try to set the tea tables close to the kitchen area. Your children's entertainer can be at the other end of the hall or a separate room if possible.
- 9 Don't forget your Smartie Artie entertainer will need to have access to the hall or venue you have booked before the party starts to set up the act. He'll arrive 15 minutes before the party starts. If possible, please arrange parking in advance of his arrival.
- 10 When booking a hall, consider the parents when they are dropping off and collecting their children. A hall with easy access and a car park is really going to help.

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- 11 Do you really need to book a hall? A children's party can be held at home and has the advantages of the children feeling more comfortable, you don't have party tea to transport and of course there are no hall hire fees!
- 12 Want to have a party in the garden? Your Smartie Artie will entertain your children in the garden but be aware there are sources of disruptions and distraction. Trampolines, garden swings and toys to name but a few! It is best to remove all distractions as far away as possible.
- 13 Phew it's hot! If the party is in the garden make sure there is some shade for the children and your Smartie Artie entertainer. Under a tree or in a gazebo is ideal and everyone will be happier for it.
- 14 If you have the party outside in the garden, it is best to sit the children on a blanket. Grass can be damp and uncomfortable for them, not to mention grass stains on party dresses!
- 15 If you are planning a party outside don't forget the British weather does not always do what you want. It is best to have an alternative area indoors should the heavens open!
- 16 As a rule, parties indoors work better than outside. A way to get the best of both worlds is to have the entertainment indoors and tea outside.
- 17 Do you need a bouncy castle at a birthday party? If you have a Smartie Artie entertainer you don't really need one, but if you do, it is important to turn it off when Smartie Artie performs his act. Bouncy castles are best used at the beginning and end of the party.
- 18 Bouncy castles are not much use in the pouring rain. So plan ahead and either book a children's entertainer or be prepared to entertain them with games yourself.
- 19 Bouncy castles are fun but the children need to be supervised. Smartie Artie does not supply bouncy castles. He will of course help if one is at the party, but is not responsible for child safety on these occasions.
- 20 You might wonder how many children to invite to birthday party. Well a Smartie Artie entertainer can entertain as many as you like, but really a sensible number is roughly the size of a class once you invite all their friends... or less if you prefer!
- Don't forget you have to feed the children and if you decide to give them going home party bags you need enough for all. However many you invite may determine upon where you want to hold the party.
- 21 Party tea in Party Boxes means they all get the same and is easy to distribute the boxes and simple to clear away. They are available in all sorts of party themes.
- 22 The party tea does not have to be complicated. You can sit the children around tables but a picnic style tea on the floor sitting around a party table cloth works just as well. Useful if you don't have the room for tables and chairs and could save you a hire cost!
- 23 If you have tea outside at tables, sticky tape on the back of paper plates stops them blowing away on a windy day! The birthday cake candles can suffer from the unexpected breeze as you walk from the house. So light them at the table in front of the birthday child. If really breezy, maybe do the candles in a door entrance out of the wind .
- 24 If you are booking a restaurant make sure the staff know the time the food has to be ready. Your Smartie Artie entertainer will break about halfway through the party for their tea and will be on hand to help and get them all to sing Happy Birthday.
- 25 The usual party times for a Birthday party are 11am-1pm for a lunchtime or anytime from 3pm for a tea time party. These times work well because normally Smartie Artie will break about halfway to allow time to feed the guests their food.
- 26 Parents of course are welcome. But if they do stay, it is best they are in another room or are asked to keep the volume of the chattering down.