



# Shrek Birthday Party



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I found amazing detailed Shrek Party plans and ideas at <http://www.kids-birthday-party-guide.com/shrek-birthday-party.html>. Using these ideas (and my own below) we had a wonderful party.

## Invitations

I sent email/ sms invites in green font with sunflower motif.

**“You're invited to a Shrektacular party to celebrate (my child's name) \_\_\_th Birthday!”**

**Date:                      Time:                      Venue: (and directions)**

**What to bring (if necessary)**

**What to wear (if you want a dress up theme – dress as fairy tale creatures featured in Shrek)**

**RSVP: (phone or email details)**

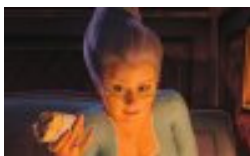
## Decorations

(Our party was held indoors due to the weather.) We hung Shrek character face masks on green florist ribbon across the table, and hung balloons from the chandelier. The table was laid with a green cloth, green paper plates and serviettes. Pin the Donkey was stuck up on the window near the table. Shrek music played. Sunflowers in a vase looked great too!

## Guest Arrival and Introductory Activities

I ask the children to help decorate the cake for the party! They can decorate their own gingerbread men!

Children love to blow up balloons and choose places to decorate the room or front gate.



## Party Food:

### Shrek Swamp Cake:

- ✿ I had baked a large chocolate cake in a large flat pan and we frosted it with a chocolate icing.
- ✿ Using Rice Crispies Marshmallow biscuits we built Shrek's swamp house using chocolate icing as mortar. We made a Shrek outhouse with chocolate wafer biscuits 'glued' with icing. They added wafer biscuits for a door and windows and used Smarties to decorate the house.
- ✿ The previous day my children had loads of fun creating toadstools, lily pads, butterflies, dragonflies and flowers out of Marshmallow paste. The children used these to create a swamp. We added lollipops with paper sunflowers pasted on the wrappings and stuck them into the cake at a corner. Using chocolate melting drops we made stepping stone path ways. Lastly we placed the candles. The cake looked stunning! Of course everyone licked and sampled the decorations ...

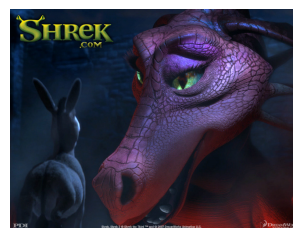
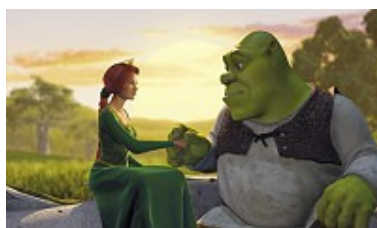
### Snacks:

- ✿ popcorn
- ✿ Cut vegetables – carrot sticks, cucumber sticks, cauliflower and broccoli florets with hummus or cream cheese dip
- ✿ Fruit kebabs
- ✿ Sausages and meatballs
- ✿ Gingerbread men!

## Drinks

Swamp Milk: Make a large jug of cold chocolate milk.

Ogre Juice: Lemonade or lime juice with a few green Jelly Tots floating in the jug.



## Shrek Birthday Party Games

**Pin the Tail on the Donkey:** For this classic party activity, you'll need a poster or picture of donkey, construction paper and blindfold. I wrote all the children's names on the tails and marked the correct tail position with a cross. Each child was blindfolded, spun a few times and then stuck the tail on the picture – their response was hilarious!

**Lily Pad Hop:** I used green paper plates. (You can cut out a V-notch in each plate to make them look like a lily leaf.) It is simpler to give every child a plate and let them stand in a large circle. There must be enough space around the outside of the circle to run and dance around. They place their plates on the ground in front of them and when the music starts, I remove 1 plate. Now there is 1 plate less than the number of children. After a little while, when the music stops, each child must try sit on a lily leaf. Anyone without a leaf stands with me. Once the music starts again, they all dance around and I remove 1 more plate. This continues till there are 2 guests and 1 plate. The last one to sit on the lily leaf is the winner! (I found that sitting is safer than standing on the plate as the child or paper plate does not slip in the rush.)

**Fairy Godmother Freezes:** Children hop to music and freeze when it stops. Anyone who moves is out. They come stand with me and demonstrate the next move (clap/wave/kick/twist/touch their shoulders and head etc.). The game continues till 1 child is the winner.

**Dragon Escape:** All the children stand at one end of the garden/room and 1 child is the dragon and is 'on'. He chases the others. If he touches a child they are stuck to the marsh with legs wide apart. Other children can help free them by crawling through their legs. If the dragon catches them all he can nominate a 2<sup>nd</sup> dragon and play again.

**Bubbles:** We gave everyone a bottle of bubble stuff as their party favour. They ran outside and had fun blowing and catching bubbles.

**Shrek File Folder Board Game:** I created a File Folder Shrek Game and the children played this on the carpet for a few rounds. From the game there were Shrek Character Cards. We used this to choose masks for their own mask game.

**Mask Fun:** Children use the character cards/ or simply chose a mask. They can play charades, sing nursery rhymes or play roles from the Shrek movies.

**Colouring Pages:** We downloaded and printed copies of pictures from <http://hubpages.com/hub/Free-Coloring-Pages---Shrek---Free-Printable-Coloring-Pages-Colouring-Pages>



## Recipes:

**Chocolate Cake:** This cake is a moist, rich cake and remains fresh for a whole weekend! It is fast and easy to mix and has been flop-proof for the many, many people who have tried it!

1  $\frac{3}{4}$  Cup Flour

2 Cup sugar

$\frac{3}{4}$  Cup cocoa

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp Baking Powder

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp Bicarb

1 tsp Salt

2 Eggs

1 Cup Milk

$\frac{1}{2}$  Cup Oil

2 tsp Vanilla

\* 1 Cup Boiling water (added after mix)

- \* Oven at 180° C
- \* Mix all ingredients except water in mixer for 2 minutes.
- \* Add hot water and mix well.
- \* Pour into large greased rectangular ovenware dish. (The cake is served in this dish.)
- \* Bake 30 – 40 minutes

## Icing:

100g butter

1 Cup (250g) Icing Sugar

1 tsp coffee in  $\frac{1}{8}$  cup of boiling water

3 Tablespoons Cocoa

1 tsp Vanilla

- \* Cream butter
- \* Add rest of the ingredients and mix till it becomes a smooth and creamy paste.

### Marshmallow Paste:

15 White Marshmallows

100g sifted Icing Sugar

Food Colouring

Corn flour

- Melt the marshmallows in a bowl in the microwave, stirring every 10 seconds.
- Add the icing sugar to the melted marshmallows and mix till it forms a paste.
- Divide into several small balls and colour each ball separately, leaving 1 ball for white.
- To colour – place the ball on a plate in the microwave for 20sec and knead a few drops of food colouring into the hot paste. (Caution – it gets very hot! Do NOT use your fingers – I used a table knife and pressed the flat side into the ball and kneaded it on a little sprinkle of icing sugar till the colour was right through.)
- When the paste gets hard, just warm it quickly in the microwave for about 10secs and then create your shapes.
- If the paste gets sticky use a little sprinkle of corn flour or icing sugar to reduce the tackiness.
- Different pieces will stick together if it is warm. Add sprinkles or silver balls for detail when the paste is warm.
- Although this is completely edible, it is not that delicious. (smile)

### Rice Crispy Marshmallow Biscuits

3 Tablespoons Butter

2 Cups Marshmallows

2 Cups Rice Crispies (maybe more)

1 tsp Vanilla

(Optional: 2 Tablespoons of peanut butter or cocoa)

- Melt the butter in a large saucepan on the stove.
- Add the marshmallows and melt, stirring continuously.
- Add the vanilla.
- Add the rice Crispies and mix till it clumps together without too many 'strings'.
- Press into a biscuit tray and cool.
- Cut into squares and store in airtight container.

