

Celebrating Birthdays

Introduction: Celebrating birthdays can be done in simple ways or elaborate and involved ways. We'll talk about this today.

1. Are birthdays celebrated in your home culture? If so, is there a special song that is sung at a birthday celebration?
2. Are there milestones in a baby's first year of life that are celebrated in your home culture? (100-days after birth, etc.) Please explain.
3. Are there any other "milestone" birthdays in your home culture? (age 16, age 40, etc.)
4. Is it common to have a "themed" birthday party for a child in your culture? For example, a child may have a princess-themed birthday party where all of the decorations are related to a princess. Have you ever been to a "themed" birthday party? Please explain.
5. Cake and ice cream are typical desserts served for a birthday party in the U.S. Are there special foods that are shared for a birthday in your home country? Please explain.
6. Sometimes middle school-aged kids (11-14) may have a "sleep-over" birthday party. Is this common in your home culture? Please explain.
7. Who would attend a child's birthday party in your home culture? Who would attend a teenager's birthday party? Who would attend an adult's birthday party?
8. Surprise birthday parties are also a way that people celebrate a birthday. A family member plans a party and the person whose birthday it is does not know about this party until the guests arrive for the party. Does this happen in your home culture? Please explain.
9. In your home culture, do teachers in schools allow children to bring a treat for the other children in the class to help celebrate their birthdays if the birthday is on a school day? Please explain.
10. Are gifts given for birthdays in your home culture? Please explain.

Vocabulary: elaborate, milestone, sleep-over, themed