



jeni ♥ ro designs

THE PARTY SPOT NEWSLETTER

September 2019

***jeni ro parties feature:
Pikmi Pop Sleepover Birthday!***



I can hardly believe it but my baby girl turned 10 on August 15th! Double Digits!

We celebrated the weekend before her birthday (and before school started) with a fun Pikmi Pop themed sleepover. Pikmi pops are part of the blind bag rage in toys now – they are cute little critters (stuffed animals) that smell like desserts hiding in a dessert – lollipops, donuts, cotton candy, etc. She loves collecting them!

[Check out the blog post all about her fun party!](#)

All about Invites! 5 Tips on WHEN and HOW to send invitations!



You can't have a party without people – so let's talk about the most important piece of party planning – the invitation! Specifically, when to send

it and how to send it.

Here are 5 tips on INVITATIONS!

1. Send the invitation AT LEAST ONE MONTH before your event. For birthday parties and baby showers it is nice to give your guests at least a month's notice, or more if you can. People's calendars fill up so fast these days!
2. For larger events (weddings, etc) even more time (at least 3 months) is appreciated, or think about sending a Save the Date if you are still deciding on a theme, etc.
3. Kids love getting "good old fashioned" mail! Use your school directory or email parents for addresses and put the invitation in the mail – addressed to the child. They will love getting it!
4. If you don't have time to print invites and address them – [Evite](#) is another good option. They have a lot of design options and you can even upload your own image for the Evite! Its easy to track RSVPs as well and send reminders about the party. I still think the at least ONE MONTH rule applies here too. Other online options are: [Punchbowl](#), [Pinqg](#), [Smilebox](#)
5. On the invite (paper or e-version) make sure you have an RSVP contact with email or phone number. It is nice from a planning standpoint (to know how much food to have, or give a headcount to a venue) to know who is coming and letting your child know who can make it to the party is exciting for them too!

If you have any other good invitation tips to share – [please share!](#) I will post them on my Facebook page! To see all the printable (and email-able) invitations in my shop - [go HERE!](#) Personalized just for your party!!

Home Party vs. Going to a Venue - Let's talk PROs and CONs!



It's party planning time and you need to figure out how you are going to celebrate your child's next birthday. Do you have a party at home or go to one of the many kid's party venues in your community? Here are some pros and cons for each option!

HOME PARTY (My personal preference)

PROS

- Total Control over everything! This can be good and bad, but I see it as good, as you can have the party go as you like – total control over decorations, activities and food. If this scares you – don't worry – there are people to help! Local Party Planners (like me!), party printables and more!

- No food restrictions or mandates as to where to get the food. This is good when you have kiddos with allergies or food sensitivities. And you can match the food with the theme.
- Comfort for your child. At home they are generally more comfortable and know they are safe.
- More time to open gifts and socialize. I know parents don't love the opening gifts part – but the kiddos really do – they love to see the birthday child open the gift they brought.
- Option to go outside (or have the party outside) if the weather is cooperating.

CONS

- Depending on your home size, you may not have the space for all guests. But there are ways to make this work as well (see outside bullet in PROs list).
- Yes, you have to clean up yourself. But if you enlist friends and family members the clean up is quick. My husband is my party cleanup crew – sometimes before the last guest leaves, he has half the party all cleaned up and put away!
- Set up is all on you. Yes, again I say enlist help! I am sure there are family members or friends who would love to help decorate. And for about the same investment (or less) as you would pay at a venue, you can definitely find a party planner who would LOVE to help! If you are in the St. Louis area – [just give me a call!](#)

VENUE PARTY (Bounce house, Chuck E Cheese, Trampoline place, etc....)

PROS

- Set up and clean up are usually done for you.
- Activities (or activity) depending on the place are provided for you.
- Plenty of space for everyone (usually).

CONS

- Total guest number may be limited and additional guest over limit could get costly.
- Hard to decorate the space ahead of time and really get into the party mode. Although some printables are easy to prep ahead of time and bring to venues (banners, party circles and more).
- Limited with food choices. Most of the time venues only allow you to order pizza through them and yes, I know most kids love pizza – but if you have a non-pizza eater (like me) it can be challenging.
- Time is limited. There generally isn't enough time to open gifts or socialize with family.

Really in the end it's all about what your child wants and where will they have the most fun! Home parties and venue parties are both great, choose what's best for you and your child! Next month I'll explore party venue options!! Til then, Happy Partying!

FREEbie! Happy FALL Art Print!



Fall is right around the corner and in many stores and offices I am already seeing Fall decorations going up! I wanted to create something simple but cute for your Fall décor. A Fall art print! You can print this at home on regular 8-1/2" x 11" cardstock paper or send the 8x10 jpeg file to a photo printer to print for you! Pin up to the wall or put it in a frame.

Here it is in my entry way! So cute!



Download the [full page pdf HERE](#) and/or the [8x10 jpeg HERE](#).

Thanks for being a subscriber and reading The Party Spot!

Happy Birthday to all the September birthdays!

Happy Birthday to all the September birthdays! This month is a big one for my family – so many birthdays! My son turns 8! And it's also my Dad, my sister, my brother in law, my nephew, my high school bff and my cousin's birthdays this month!



Thanks for reading

The Party Spot!

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