



PARTY PREPARATIONS

Check out Pinterest for more ideas @ <https://www.pinterest.com/explore/apple-birthday-parties/>

Decorations

Have baskets or bowls of apples on tables surrounded by fall leaves. If desired hang pictures of apples on the walls and use red table coverings. Centerpieces can be given as door prizes at the end.

Refreshments

Apple Cider

Easy Apple Crisp – <https://www.allrecipes.com/recipe/15404/easy-apple-crisp/>

Apple Fritter Waffle Donuts – <https://insidebrucrewlife.com/mini-apple-fritter-waffle-donuts/>

Apple Dippers – <https://laurenslatest.com/apple-dippers-bar/>

Fun things to do

Printables and fun facts for everyone

<http://kids.bestapples.com/kids/teachers/coloring.shtml>

Family Craft – Apple Banner

<http://simplydesigning.porch.com/kids-craft-apple-stamped-banner/>

Microwaveable Applesauce Recipe

<http://www.food.com/recipe/perfect-easy-microwave-applesauce-140062>





PARTY GAMES

Apple Taste Test

Have several varieties of apples cut up into bite sized pieces, enough for everyone. Place a number on the bowl where everyone can see (don't forget to make your answer sheet while cutting them up!). Provide a list of the apples you have in the bowls and a space by each one for participants to write the number of the apple they believe it is. Share an apple varieties list while sharing the answers to the Apple Taste Test.

“Cool” Apple Game

Place a basket of apples in the center of the circle. Have everyone stand in a circle. While music plays, pass an apple around the circle (as you would in “Hot Potato”), and whoever has the apple when the music stops takes an apple from the basket and leaves the game. For a great twist use candy apples!

Play “Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree” found @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YcyiC79l910>

Apple Peeling Contest

Give each participant an apple and knife or apple peeler. On the count of three, they begin peeling, seeing who can get the longest apple skin.

Apples On A String

Suspend an apple from the ceiling or a doorway about shoulder high from the floor. Each player must try to take a bite out the suspended apple without using their hands. Have extra apples ready to replace each apple after it has been bitten so that the next person has an opportunity for a fresh bite.

Half An Apple Matching Game

In advance, cut an apple into two pieces, being sure each apple is cut differently so that each piece will only fit with one other piece. Distribute one-half of an apple to each participant. Have each person find the other half of their apple and shout “APPLE TO APPLE” when done.

Apple Relay

You will need one apple for each team of 4+ players, and a marker for the end of the relay. When the leader shouts, “Go!” a team member places an apple on the back of the first player. The first player races to the end of the course and back without letting the apple fall off their back. If the apple falls off, that player must stop where they are and put it back on. When the player gets back to their team, the first player places the apple on the back of the second player, keep going until everyone on the team has done the relay.





DEVOTIONAL: THE APPLE OF HIS EYE

Some of you may have heard the phrase “she/he is the apple of my eye”. Often people in love will use this phrase as well as parents looking into the eyes of their newborn baby. The phrase is found in the Bible on for occasions (Deuteronomy 32:10; Psalms 17:8; Proverbs 7:2 and Zechariah 2:8). This phrase has two interpretations from Hebrew, the Bible, one meaning a *reflection*, the other meaning a *daughter*.

The Hebrew word (pronounced) ee–shone, means little man of the eye, meaning the reflection of someone seen in a pupil.

“My son, keep my words and treasure up my commandments with you, keep my commandments and live, keep my teachings as the apple (ee–shone) of your eye; bind them on your fingers, write them on the tablet of your heart.”
Proverbs 7:1–3 (ESV).

Isn't it amazing that as we look to God, we become a reflection of Him. If you look into someone's eyes, go ahead and do it, you will see your reflection in their pupil.

We are to stay challenged to keep God as the apple of our eye, as we do, as we treasure His commandments, learn them and live them out, we are the apple of His eye. Why, because we are truly looking to Him for daily guidance.

Sing – “As the Deer”—verse 3 reads *“You alone are the real joy giver and the apple of my eye”*.

Refreshment Prayer or Benediction: (attached for printing below)

Johnny Appleseed

Oh, the Lord is good to me,
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, and the rain, and the apple seed;
The Lord is good to me.

For every seed I sow,
An apple tree will grow,
And there will be apples there
Enough for the whole wide world to share;
The Lord is good to me.

2nd verse contributed by Natalie from Virginia

