



## Ideas for Non-Food Celebrations

Creating a safe and welcoming learning environment for all of our students is one of the top priorities of Upper Arlington Schools. For our many students with food allergies, something as simple as a classroom snack can have severe, or even life-threatening, health implications. We ask parents to help us keep our school a safe environment for all students by eliminating or closely monitoring the types of food brought into our classrooms.

There are many ways to celebrate a special occasion without food. Here are some ideas parents may consider instead of edible treats:

### Trinkets:

- Stickers
- Pens, pencils or markers
- Erasers
- Bookmarks
- Stencils
- Magnifying glass
- Tops
- Whistles
- Temporary tattoos
- Notepads or journals
- Recess items – jump ropes, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, mini Frisbees, beach balls

### Activities:

*(Please discuss any activity with your child's teacher to ensure it can be done within students' academic schedules.)*

- Birthday book – each student writes something nice about the birthday child in a special book
- Special reading time – the student selects a book for the teacher to read to the class
- Play special music in the classroom – students take time to sing and dance to a favorite song
- Let student be the teacher's special helper for the morning or afternoon

Our goal is to celebrate special days while keeping the classroom environment safe and students focused on learning. Please consult your child's teacher for more information regarding any food allergies that may be present in the class or to schedule an appropriate activity.