

Kids love to create. Food is no exception! Here are some fun treats to make this Fourth of July. Help your kids surprise your family and friends with these delicious additions to the dessert table.

Pretzel Sparklers

long rod pretzels
white chocolate, melted
sprinkles (red, white and blue) or star cake decorations

Melt the white chocolate. Dip the pretzel rod halfway into the melted chocolate then sprinkle the sprinkles over the wet chocolate. Lay on waxed paper or place in a cup to dry.

FAMILY FUN ON THE 4TH OF JULY

Everyone typically concentrates on fireworks and barbecues. This year, why not concentrate on making the Fourth of July fun for the kids in your life?

Things You'll Need

- 4th Of July Party Supplies
- Fourth Of July Party Favors
- Crayons
- Construction Paper
- Tents
- red, white and blue kites

Dress the kids in red, white and blue to help set the mood. Make sure they're wearing comfortable play clothes.

Read a children's story about Independence Day and teach the kids songs like "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "America the Beautiful" and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Help the kids with some Fourth of July crafts. You can make wooden firecrackers, a construction paper flag and a fireworks celebration on paper.

Find some Fourth of July coloring books or print some coloring pages from a children's Web site. Make sure each child has red and blue crayons.

Set up a tent in the yard. It can serve as a fort, a hideout and a convenient place for afternoon naps.

Encourage the kids to help decorate your Fourth of July dinner table. They can gather flowers for a bouquet, sprinkle the table with stars and confetti, and even help set the places.

Purchase some sparklers and pop-its for older children if they're available in your area. With proper supervision, these small fireworks can help kids feel like they're part of the party.

FLAG TAG

Each member of a group of kids is given a paper ribbon that is tied around his waist and dangles behind him to his knees. The ribbon is red, white or blue and is prominently marked with the names George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and John Adams. The significance of the founding fathers is explained to the children. The kids then stand in a large, loose circle of adults and are given one of the names as the one they are to collect from the other players. The kids then chase one another. The first child to pull all of the ribbons from the waists of the others bearing the name he was assigned wins the contest.

