



INTRODUCTION AND PARTY INVITATIONS

Looking for some nautical nonsense for your child's upcoming birthday party? Take inspiration from the very popular character and show *SpongeBob SquarePants*™ who lives with his friends under the sea at Bikini Bottom. This is a wonderful party to hold in the summer given the *under the sea* adventure or in the winter when kids are looking for a winter's break.

Make a **SpongeBob Invitation**. Use yellow heavy cardstock and cut it into a rectangle. Follow these steps to decorate it like SpongeBob:

- Glue googly eyes on
- Draw a mouth, red blushy cheeks, and a nose
- Cut two arms and two legs out of construction paper and glue them on
- Draw the tie, the shorts, and his shirt
- On the back of SpongeBob, draw bubbles
- In the middle of SpongeBob write down the party details

Alternatively, send a **Bubble Invitation**. Using heavy blue cardstock, fold a piece in half to create a card. Use a glue stick to attach a small section of bubble wrap. Paint the tips of the bubbles with yellow and blue paint. Inside the card, provide all of the *SpongeBob SquarePants* party details.

Use thematic language in your party invitation:

Who lives in a pineapple under the sea? SpongeBob! And he would like you join him and all of his underwater buddies at Bikini Bottom for some tropical fun and to celebrate ____'s birthday.

*Destination: Bikini Bottom (your home address)
Cast Off: Date of Party
Dive Time: Time of Party*

Ask your party guests to wear their funkiest beachwear. If the party is during winter, ask them to wear their beach clothes underneath their warm clothes to change into at the party.



DECORATIONS

Turn your home into *SpongeBob SquarePants* under the sea home for the party.

At the front entrance to the party, place a lifesaver inner tube on the door with a sign saying, "Welcome to Bikini Bottom!"

Hang teal and blue streamers in your doorway in a thick layer for the kids to walk through to gain entrance to the party.

Transform your dining area into the **Krusty Krab**.

Set up several card tables to resemble a restaurant

Tie yellow balloons to all of the chairs, use oceanic blue table covers, and mix and match yellow, blue, and green tableware on all of the tables

Hang blue and teal streamers of various lengths from the ceiling to give the effect of oceanic water

Create pineapple centerpieces for each of the tables by cutting pineapples in half and filling them with fresh fruit skewers

Scatter sand for added authenticity

Create a **Hostess Station** for the kids to place their food orders at. Ask some adult helpers to serve the food and let the kids take turns playing server as well.

Turn the main party area into Bikini Bottom.

Cover the walls and furniture with blue tarp and place *SpongeBob* foam stickers and sea creatures all over them.

Create a sea of blue on the floor with various shades of blue balloons. Make sure to blow up enough to have the effect of moving water.

Hang jellyfish balloons and plates from the ceiling. Blow up green, yellow, and blue balloons and hang streamers in alternating colors from the balloons and plates and hang with fish wire from the ceiling at varying lengths to give a floating effect.

Make mobiles by printing pictures of *SpongeBob* treasure chests, hamburgers, and his friends and gluing them to heavy cardstock. Attach green, yellow, and blue curly ribbon to the bottom of each card and hang these pictures among the jellyfish from the ceiling.

Cut out circles from blue and white construction paper for bubbles and place them on the walls.



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Create one large SpongeBob poster by tracing his outline onto large poster board, cutting him out, coloring him, and hanging him on a wall surrounded by bubbles.

Place shells around Bikini Bottom.

Create **Treasure Chests** to place around Bikini Bottom. Use styrofoam coolers and spray paint them a copper color. Fill the chests with goodies that the kids will win during the games and activities.

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

When your guests arrive, welcome them to Bikini Bottom by placing a lei around their necks.

Make a SpongeBob. Provide the kids with makeup or regular sponges, googly eyes, string, markers, crayons, glitter, construction paper, felt, and glue. Have everyone create their own SpongeBob with these materials. The kids can also use construction paper and cut it into the shape of the star to create Patrick.

Hold a **Jellyfish Stomp.** Similar to Musical Chairs, but place construction paper jellyfish on the floor. Play thematic SpongeBob music, and when it stops the kids must find a jellyfish and stomp on it. Whoever doesn't land on one is out!

Play **Pin the SquarePants on SpongeBob.** Draw a large picture of SpongeBob on tag board in his underwear and draw Sandy, Patrick, and Gary around him for decorations. Take a couple more pieces of cardboard and cut out enough pants for each child to take a turn.

Play **Sponge Toss.** Purchase sand buckets and large sponges that are used to wash your car. On each sponge draw SpongeBob and in half of the buckets draw a picture of plankton at the top. Split the children into teams of two. One has a bucket filled with water and the sponge and the other teammate stands across with the empty bucket with plankton in it. When the whistle blows the person with the sponge has to soak the sponge and throw it to their teammate who then must squeeze the water into their bucket. Whoever soaks plankton and the *chum bucket* first wins.

Hold a **Krabby Patty Relay Race.** Create two teams. Set up 2 lines with TV trays set up at both ends of each line. On the far tables, place real hamburger buns and pretend burgers and cheese slices, as well as a set of oven mitts and a spatula. Each team member must run up to their table, make the Krabby Patty (bun with burger and cheese), put the mitts on, and then run with the patty on their spatula back to the starting table. Then, they must take everything off, set it down on the table, and the next team member in line must do the same. Keep going until everyone on the teams has done it. First team done wins!



For more great birthday party planning tips and advice online, visit www.birthdaysrus.com. For the best party supplies and gifts go to www.toysrus.com, or shop at a Toys"R"Us store near you.

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Have some **Bubble Fun**. For an outdoor activity, hang a hula hoop from a tree and hand out bubbles and blowers and see who can blow a bubble that floats through the hoop from the farthest spot away. You can also judge who can blow the biggest bubble.

Play **SpongeBob Trivia**. If everyone has not seen the show, play one of the episodes for them to watch and have trivia questions for the episode, the characters, and the world they inhabit.

PARTY MENU

Serve a *Krusty Krab* Menu:

Krabby Patties with Kelp (mini burgers with French Fries)

Mrs. Puff Fish Sticks

Plankton Pizza (mini bagel pizzas)

Peanut butter and jellyfish sandwiches cut out with fish, flower and star shaped cookie cutters

Fruit skewers made with grapes, strawberries and pineapples.

Snail Mix: Chocolate-covered Chex Mix[®] placed into a clean cat food bowl with a sign next to it.

Square Cupcakes: Using a mini square cupcake tray (found at craft stores), make a store bought pineapple upside down cake mix (substitute water in the recipe with pineapple soda for added moistness), and top with a thin layer of whipped cream, brown sugar, and pineapple slices.

Create a **Sundae Bar**. Buy 2-3 flavors of ice cream, several different sprinkles, a few types of syrups, and toppings. Let the kids make their own sundaes.

Make a **Sand Cake**. Fill a sand pail layered with Oreo[®] Cookies, vanilla pudding, and gummy fish.

Serve **Jell-O in a bag**. Make a batch of blue Jell-O[®] and place into a plastic bag and add Swedish Fish[®]. Give each child a bag for a snack.

Serve **Ocean Drinks:** blue Kool-Aid[®] mixed with Sprite[®] and Pop Rocks[®] candy.

PARTY FAVORS

Send the kids home with a sand pail of goodies from Bikini Bottom. Use a paint pen to spell the kids' names on each pail. Fill it with shells, sand, gummy fish, jelly bracelets and necklaces, watercolor sets with booklets, and a bottle of bubbles.



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Make sure they wear their leis home too!

Be sure to send thank you notes from Bikini Bottom to all of your party guests thanking them for their visit to SpongeBob's world.



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