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Pat a cake, pat a cake Baker's man Bake me a cake as fast as you can Pat it and roll it And mark it with B And put it in the oven for baby and me!

## **Birthdays**

Birthdays can be full of sensory experiences and new words for baby. Balloons! Cake! Presents! People! Taking the time to experience all that birthdays have to offer can provide abundant learning opportunities for baby. Birthdays can be exciting and also overwhelming! Look for those moments of calm and quiet to talk to baby about what they are experiencing.



- Practice singing the Happy Birthday song to each of baby's stuffed animals. Bake a pretend cake and wear birthday hats!
- Talk about a balloon's color and texture. Bounce it, then rub it on your hair and see it stick up on the wall! Toss it into the air and try to catch it. (Remember to quickly discard any balloons that pop. Soothe baby if the loud noise causes upset.)
- Count the candles on a cake or count up to the age of the person. Counting beyond 10 is excellent practice. Blow out the candles, touch the frosting, smash it down and taste the sweetness. Have fun while improving fine motor skills!
- There are lots of parks and outdoor areas in Pierce County that could be fun venues for birthday parties. Check out piercecountywa.org/114/Parks-Recreation for more info.
- A free issue of Parent Map is available in many of our Pierce County Library locations. Check out their online Birthday Parties Family Atlas at parentmap.com/atlas/birthday-parties for party ideas.



- Birthday Monsters! by Sandra Boynton
- You Are One or You Are Two by Sara O'Leary
- Jane Foster's 123 by Jane Foster
- Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang





