

Tinies

The Childcare Experts

Mobile Creche Activity Ideas



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Introduction

Up until a few years ago hiring a crèche service for a wedding, conference or a work Christmas party was unheard of. In today's society with a high percentage of working parents it is essential that family time is nurtured and enjoyed, yet often all of the fun adult events are at weekends and therefore the guilt factor of adults enjoying adult fun becomes complicated. More and more families want weekends to be family time and by offering a mobile crèche at an event allows families to all experience and enjoy the event.

Take a wedding for example: the Bride and Grooms are often split between wanting their friends, family and children, but equally have concerns over disruption during the wedding breakfast and speeches. Everyone wants their wedding remembered for the right reasons and not because of 'that child' who threw food, screamed loudly and dropped their drink down your best outfit!



More and more couples have their own children to think about on their wedding day. Having a crèche service allows the Bride and Groom to include their own children and their family and friends children in the fun of the day at the appropriate times, and then have the children taken off to have their own fun in an environment dedicated to them. Let's be honest, who wants to sit through a boring dinner and speeches when you're 5 years old? Some may even argue 35?

At Tinies Childcare we have 26 UK branches with over 60,000 childcarers who have all been personally interviewed, CRB and referenced checked. Being the biggest UK childcare agency we supply nursery nurseries on a full time and temps basis, nannies to parents, maternity nannies to new parents as well as run mobile crèches! It may seem that we juggle a lot of balls for one company but they all ultimately involve one essential ingredient and that's the staff.

As with any business, the staff is what makes Tinies successful and the chosen Mobile Crèche provider quoted by Conde Nast Bridle Magazine. For every booking Tinies will only ever use staff that are registered and already working for Tinies and because of the vast amount of childcarers Tinies works with, we can provide you with a wealth of experience, knowledge and varied skills to tailor your event to suit your demands and budget.

In addition to the branches, Tinies Head Office is made up of a team of highly skilled individuals who have set up and run Nurseries, Crèches, and Holiday Clubs for a number of years in both the UK and Europe and provides support and guidance on every crèche run. We are proud to say that we know a thing or two about childcare.

Considering having a Mobile Crèche?

If you are considering having a mobile crèche then here are few things you need to ask potential crèche providers:

1. **What ratios do you work to?**

These should be in line with Ofsted guidelines which are:

- 0 - 2 years 1:3
- 2 - 3 years 1:4
- 3 - 8 years 1:8

Although there is no official guidance on working with children over 8 Tinies would recommend that groups do not exceed 1:12.

2. **Do you conduct a risk assessment?**

All mobile crèches should conduct a full risk assessment for the area they are going to operate from. At Tinies we do this at least 7 days in advance to ensure that any concerns are highlighted with the client and the venue and suitable contingency plans can be put in place where necessary.

3. **Do you have appropriate insurance?**

All mobile crèche must have public and employee liability insurance to protect both you and their employees. At Tinies we have a group policy and insurance certificate are always displayed at every crèche we run. We can also provide additional copies to our clients on request.

4. **Do you have policies and procedures in place to protect children?**

Every mobile crèche should have procedures which are understood and followed by staff. These should be available to you on request so you can fully understand what they would do in all eventualities. At Tinies we have a comprehensive operations manual which has been written to manage events safely and train staff to our high standards. We also have policy information that can be provided to all parents on request.

5. **What type of activities can you provide?**

All mobile crèches should be able to provide you with ideas on activities, themes, equipment list and a plan for the duration of the crèche. At Tinies we can provide you with all of these and have included a few activities and games that we may play with the children.

Tinies is very proud and confident about what we deliver so if you are interested in a mobile crèches please contact us by calling 0800 783 6070 to talk to your nearest Tinies branch or by completing our online enquiry form at www.tinies.com.

If you're still not convinced whether the service is for you please read on. If you are a parent looking for some fun ideas then read on or download our free resource "Children's Party Ideas" which has many more suggestions.



If you are a competitor looking at what Tinies are doing then please be honest and let us know what you think by emailing creche@tinies.com or please feel free to play and enjoy the suggested activities below.

Suggestions for Games

- **Welcome Game**

This allows the children to build confidence and join in at any time.
It is noisy so ear plugs may be needed!

Higher or Lower?

1. Organise five cones in a line, in front of the group
2. Select 5 children to come and stand behind one cone each
3. Give each of the children a piece of paper with a number on or a giant playing card and ask them to hold it against their chest hiding it from the group
4. Organise one other child to take part in the game, who will become the contestant
5. The first child in the line should turn and show the group and the contestant
6. The host (the instructor) should ask the group to help the contestant guess whether the next number will be higher or lower and get the group to shout out
7. Eventually the host must ask the contestant what their decision is
8. If they are right, the group should give a big cheer and decide on whether the next number will be higher or lower than the last
9. This continues until the contestant gets to the end and then other children are chosen to be the card holders and contestant

- **Physical Game**

This is a fun group game when you have the space and right age group.

Space Invaders

1. At one end of the room place three hoops spread out with 5 sponge balls in each
2. Nominate three children to go and stand in the hoops and become the 'Space Invaders'
3. Nominate two other children to stand at the other end of the room and they will be the 'Space Invaders' helpers. When the game starts their job is to collect the balls and return them to the 'Space Invaders' in their hoop
4. Between the 'Space Invaders' and their helpers place a number of hoops for the remaining children to stand in. The children in the hoops are called the 'Space Troopers'
5. On the instructors command the 'Space Invaders' must remain in their hoop and throw the balls below the knee at the 'Space Troopers'. The 'Space Trooper' must remain in their hoop but can stand on one leg and jump the balls as they come towards them. If they step out of their hoop or get hit they lose a life. They have 4 lives until they have to shrink to the floor (dramatically!) and curl up in a ball
6. The game is over when there are no more 'Space Invaders' standing or when the allocated time limit is up
7. Swap the children over so that they get a turn in all positions



- **Drama Activity**

This allows the children to work together as a team and meet new friends.

Guess the Scene

1. Organise the children into small teams - approx 3-4 in a group
2. Give each team space to work their magic!
Set out a photo frame with cones for them to work in
3. The idea of the game is to give each group a situation in which a photograph might be taken. This needs to be whispered to each group so they must work quietly
4. Each team then has 2 minutes to decide what their picture will look like and practice
5. At the end of 2 minutes the instructor must ask the children to get ready for their photo. The instructor then goes round group by group and shouts out 'cheese' and the children have to freeze in the position for their final photo. The other groups must guess the scene
6. Allocate points for each scene and play 4 rounds before adding up the team score. The team with the most wins the photography contract!



Suggested Scenes:

- * Winning the World Cup Final!
- * Playing tennis
- * Scuba Diving and discovered a shipwreck!
- * Roller coaster ride
- * Synchronised swimming team
- * Members of a band
- * At a wedding.

All information and advice contained in this resource are meant as guidance only.

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