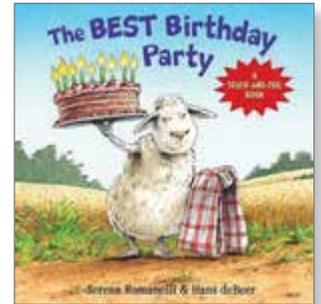


**Story of the week: "The Best Birthday Party: A Touch and Feel Book"**

by **Serena Romanelli**. *North South Books. USA, 2009.*

- There are a variety of books available dealing with the receptive vocabulary theme this week – Birthdays. This book adds the extra quality of textures and descriptors on each page, such as the shiny balloons blown up for the party.
- Activities:
  - Get out old photos of your child's birthdays and talk about each photo. Match aspects of each photo with the book and discuss what is the same and what is different between the book and your child's own photos.
  - Create a birthday party for one of your child's toys as explained in the receptive vocabulary goal. You can be as elaborate as you want in creating a birthday party, from invitations to other family members or stuffed animals, to party plates, a cake and some presents wrapped up. Blow up balloons and decorate the room for a party. Everything you do helps your child learn the vocabulary, language, routine and concepts around birthday parties, which will then prepare him for all the birthday parties he will begin attending once he starts preschool.

**Song of the week: "Happy Birthday"**

Words: "Happy Birthday to you. Happy Birthday day to you. Happy Birthday dear (name). Happy Birthday to you."

- A traditional song which is always sung with the birthday cake.
- Sing the song any time you have a birthday party, real or pretend.
- Practice the song by making a quick playdough cake and using real candles to light and blow out.
- Make a page in the *Sound Book* with a birthday cake. Make some candles to put on the cake and make separate flames that can be stuck above the candles and then blown off. You can use velcro or blu tac to stick the flames on above the candles.

★ **TIP:** *Make a hearing aid/implant box with your child's name and picture on it, so that when they are not in the dry aid, your child can be responsible for putting them in his/her device box.*

