

# How to Celebrate the Last Day of School with Friends

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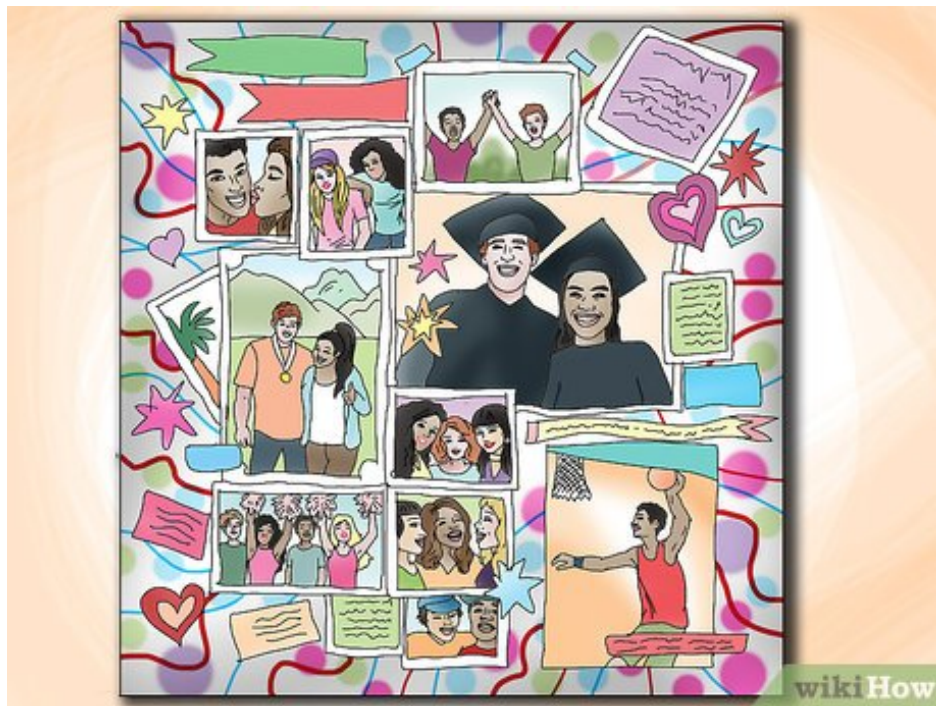
All the tests are over and you have no more homework. You have finished another long school year, so it is time to celebrate the start of summer. There are many fun and exciting ways to acknowledge the end of school and the beginning of summer break.

## Method 1

### Method 1 of 3: Commemorating the School Year



**1 Get going away gifts.** Make or buy gifts for your teachers and friends. You could make your teacher a card and get them a gift card, tie, bracelet, a monogrammed hat or shirt, or a travel mug. You could get your friends keepsakes and summer-themed snacks.



## 2 Make crafts. Reminisce about the end of another year by making nostalgic crafts.

- Make a collage or a scrapbook. Print out photos of your favorite memories from the year and make a collage or an entire scrapbook of your school year.
- **Make a poster.** Get poster board and different colored pens and have all your friends write on the poster with their favorite memories of the school year.
- Bring a memory shirt to school. Have all your friends sign a blank shirt and write you messages with fabric pens. [1]



## 3 Move on from the past. Forget about the parts of the school year that went bad and start with a clean slate. Write down your least favorite parts of the school year in chalk on the sidewalk then throw water balloons on the chalk to help you move on from the negative parts of the past year.



#### **4** **Get ready for summer.** Celebrate finishing school by prepping for an amazing summer.

- Start a summer countdown. Make a summer calendar using art supplies or your computer of your last month of school and write how many days until summer in each box. Cross off the box each day after school to mark that you are one day closer to summer.
- Make a summer bucket list. Put down all the things you want to do and accomplish over the summer then cross each thing off as you complete it. [2]



## Method 2 of 3: Celebrating with an Outing



**1 Head to the coast.** If you live near the water go to the beach to celebrate the end of another school year. A relaxing, fun day or weekend at the beach with your friends is the perfect way to celebrate the start of summer.

- Play games on the beach. No matter how old or young you are you can always have fun playing games. Bring kites to fly and empty buckets to build sandcastles. Bury each other in the sand and have a relay race.
- **Relax** by the water. The school year can be exhausting so spend some time laying in the sand. Bring books and start your summer reading. You could even do some yoga or meditation on the sand to really de-stress. [3]
- Have a bonfire. After your long day on the beach finish off with a bonfire to celebrate. Sit around the bonfire and reminisce about your favorite and least favorite parts of the school year.



**2 Explore the outdoors.** Celebrate no longer having to sit in a classroom by getting out in nature and taking advantage of the nice weather.

- Go on a hike. Visit a hiking trail you have never been to or one that is your favorite. Check ahead of time to make sure it is not too long for you or your friends. You could even go on a hike that ends at a waterfall and celebrate by running under the water.
- Go **swimming**. End the year by jumping into the water. Go to a river, lake, the ocean, or a swimming pool with your friends to start summer.
- Ride your bikes. Go on a bike ride with your friends either out in nature or around town. Get a treat after your bike ride to reward yourselves for your hard work.
- Visit the zoo. Enjoy the summer weather with a trip to the zoo. Any animal lover will appreciate seeing animals instead of being in a classroom.



- 3 Go somewhere in the evening.** Spend your first day of summer sleeping in. Then celebrate at night time with your friends.
- Have a night at the movies. See the latest blockbuster hit, complete with popcorn, soda, and candy
  - Go out to dinner. Get all your friends together for a meal. Make reservations at your favorite restaurant or cook the dinner yourself.





- 1 Schedule the party.** Make it the day of or few days after school gets out. If you need to, ask your parents if you can have the party before you invite anyone.
  - Invite your friends. You can make handmade cards with art supplies, use your computer to make the invitations, call your friends, ask your friends in person, or make a Facebook event.
  - Get the decorations. You can get decorations at many party stores or you can make them yourself. Make a banner that says "Welcome to Summer!" <sup>[4]</sup> You could get decorations that are graduation themed or summer themed.



**2 Plan activities.** Your party could include throwing water balloons, going swimming, sleepovers, [planning parties](#), baking, playing sports, watching movies, singing karaoke, or playing board games.

- Have a photo booth. Set up a back drop and get out a camera to create a photo booth. You could even buy or make props and signs for the pictures, such as scarves, glasses, graduation hats, and beach balls.
- Make it a sleepover. Sleep inside or outside in tents if it is warm enough. Make s'mores either over a fire outside or in your microwave. [5]



**3 Prepare food.** Make sure to feed your guests with a meal, snacks, and dessert. Celebrate the start of summer with summer themed foods – hamburgers, hotdogs, milk shakes, fruits, ice cream, chips, and lemonade. You could cook or barbeque the food yourself or you could have your party catered.





## Tips

- Give your friends enough notice about any plans.
- Enjoy yourself.
- Don't stress out about making celebrations perfect, just **have fun!**
- Give your friends lovely gifts to show you care. If you won't see your friend again then make it a good gift so they will remember you.



## Warnings

- Make sure if you need to that you ask your parents before you plan anything.

## References

1. ↑ <http://www.thedatingdivas.com/kids-korner/100-last-day-of-school-celebration-ideas/>
2. ↑ <http://www.thedatingdivas.com/kids-korner/100-last-day-of-school-celebration-ideas/>
3. ↑ <http://redtri.com/fun-beach-activities-for-kids/#>
4. ↑ <http://www.thedatingdivas.com/kids-korner/100-last-day-of-school-celebration-ideas/>
5. ↑ <http://www.parents.com/parenting/better-parenting/positive/how-to-celebrate-the-last-day-of-school/>

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