



Child's play

Our top 10 tricks to keep the little ones entertained for hours



1 GOODIE, GOODIE GUMDROPS

Bright and colourful goodie bags filled with small toys, puzzles, colouring pencils, paper and a few treats are a sure way to keep little minds occupied. Don't include too many sweets though, or your plan may backfire.

2 WEDDING CRÈCHERS

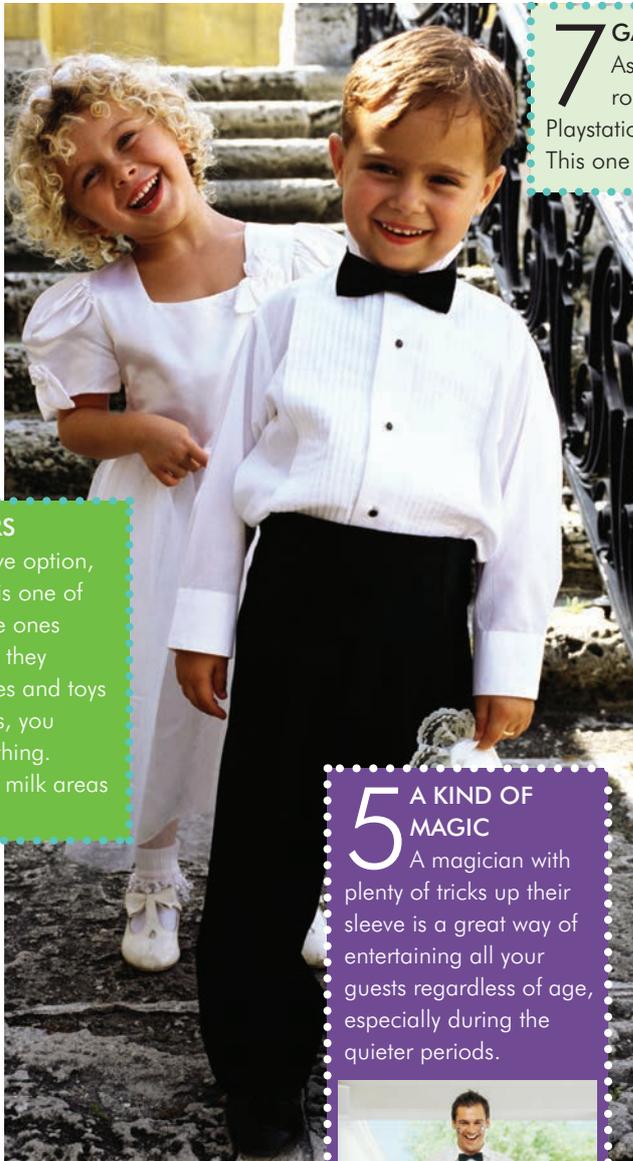
This is a more expensive option, but a wedding crèche is one of the best ways to keep the little ones entertained from the moment they arrive. With engaging activities and toys all organised by professionals, you won't have to worry about a thing. Some also provide sleep and milk areas for babies and toddlers.



3 UP TO THE NINES

Why not fill a box with fancy dress costumes for the kids to try out during the reception? Clever props are also handy for any guests taking part in a photo booth session.

Top tip: 'Create opportunities for children involved in the wedding to earn VIP badges or gold-star stickers. Roles can range from marshalling guests to the right place, to holding a bouquet in the correct position' – Lindsey Doe, Childcare Expert at Tinies Crèches



5 A KIND OF MAGIC

A magician with plenty of tricks up their sleeve is a great way of entertaining all your guests regardless of age, especially during the quieter periods.



4 JUMPING FOR JOY

A bouncy castle never fails to get little ones excited. It's great fun for the big kids too and makes for some funny photographs.

6 PRETTY POLLY

Even in today's technology-orientated world, a traditional Punch and Judy show will always raise some laughs. It's a marriage that will continue to entertain children for generations to come.

7 GAME ON

Ask your venue to create a separate games room with a kids' pool table, Wii or Playstation that they can visit throughout the day. This one is ideal for older children.



8 SHIVER ME TIMBERS

Lead the children on an exciting treasure hunt with a list of clues that take them to various hidden prizes like toys and sweets – ideal for spring and summer weddings at big outdoor venues. Thanks to purse-friendly pound stores, this won't break the bank either.

9 BIG FUN

If your venue has a large garden, why not provide some giant lawn games? Bowling, Jenga and Connect Four are family favourites sure to set off that competitive spark.



10 EXPRESS YOURSELF

Make a craft table so the kids can get creative, although be sure to provide washable crayons and colouring pencils to avoid any unwanted stains. Paint and wedding outfits don't mix!