**So You Want to Throw a Kitten Baby Shower???**

**When is the best time to throw a shower?**

We suggest late March, April, or early May. This will help you get supplies on time and psych everyone up for the imminent arrival of kittens. A weekend day in the late morning or early afternoon works best.

**Who should be invited?**

Staff, Volunteers, Foster Families, Donors, Public

**Where?**

If you can hold the Baby Shower at your shelter it gives you a chance to showcase your shelter to potential, volunteers, donors, and adopters. Ideally your space should be large enough to accommodate attendees as well as a refreshment table, information table, gifts/donations, and a space to play games.

**Food and Beverages**

It’s nice to have refreshments available for your guests. Some sort of beverage, punch is great, as well as, cookies, cupcakes, etc. Items that do not need to be cut for serving are easiest. Try calling around to local grocery stores and bakeries to see if they would be willing to donate baked goods for your event. You can advertise their business and make them an official “sweet treat sponsor.”



**Décor**

Make it a real party and hang some baby shower décor! Dollar stores and discount stores often have these items for cheap. Get your crafty staff and volunteers involved and have a decorating and set up party before the event.

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**Games and Activities**

Baby shower games are a great way to engage your guests. We typically do 3 games for small prizes. We have also held raffles as a way to generate revenue at the shower.

Baby Shower Game Examples:

**1. Pin the Nose on the Cat**

Supplies: Large poster of cat face, multiple cat noses, pens, tape, blindfold

Object: Participants attempt to pin the nose of the cat while blindfolded.

Winner: The winner is the person who most closely places their nose on the cats face – no ties!\*

Prize: $10 Tom’s Pancake House Gift Certificate

**2. Kitty Name Game**

Supplies: Answer sheet, pens, answer key

Object: To guess as many of the most popular cat names from 2012 correctly

Winner: Whoever guesses the most names correctly is the winner – no ties!\*

Prize: Old Spaghetti Factory Gift Card

**3. Draw a Kitty**

Supplies: White paper plates, pens

Object: Participants will hold a paper plate on the top of their heads and attempt to draw a realistic kitty – will give folks one minute to draw.

Winner: Whoever the person running the game thinks has drawn the most realistic looking kitty.

Prize: Cookies by Design Gift Certificate



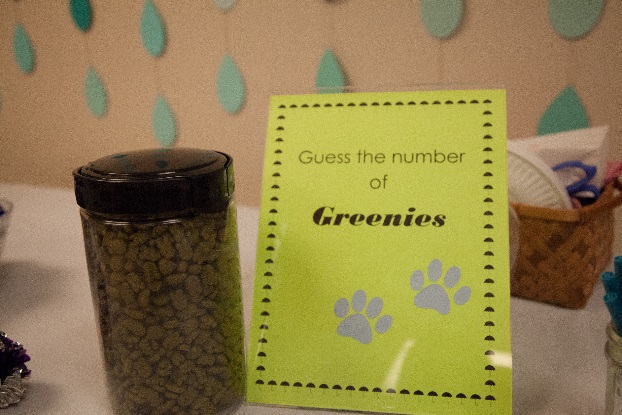
**4. Guess the Number of Baby Cat Kibbles**

Supplies: Baby Bottle, Royal Canin Kibbles, Small guess sheets with space for name and email address, bowl to collect guess sheets, someone who knows the number of kibbles in the bottle ☺

Object: Participants will submit a sheet of paper with their name and contact information and a guess of how many kibbles are in the bottle.

Winner: Who ever guesses closest to the actual number of kibbles without going over – no ties!\*

Prize: Hand Painted Pet Portrait

*\*All ties will be broken by a rousing game of rock, paper, scissors*

Pinterest is also a great resource for finding ideas for baby shower games and décor.

**Raffle and Fundraiser**

Another great way to raise funds is to hold a raffle. Shower attendees can purchase tickets for a chance to win prizes.

**Gifts and Donations**

An Amazon wish list is a great way to let folks know what supplies you most need. Amazon has a great ranking feature to help you indicate which items are of greatest priority. A link can be included in any electronic communications promoting your event. You may also want to include a wish list in plain list form for people who do not wish to purchase online. Have a donation collection jar predominately placed at the actual event to collect more funds day of.

**Kitten Foster Program Wish List**

Royal Canin Baby Cat Dry Food Gallon Size Ziplock Freezer Bags

Avoderm Chicken Wet Food A/D Ointment- 4 oz. size in tube

PetAg KMR powder Medium Sized Diaper/Baby Bags

Pet Nursing Kit for Kittens

Frontline Plus for Cats

Advantage for Cats

Quick Read Digital Thermometers

Flea Combs

Pet Hair/Lent Rollers & Refills

Hand Sanitizer – 4oz bottles & refill packs

Latex Exam Gloves

Multi Colored Fine-Tip Sharpies

Little Noses Saline Drops

Little Noses Decongestant Drops

Baby Wash Cloths

**Information and Foster Recruitment**

The Baby Shower event is a fantastic opportunity to educate the public about your program and recruit volunteers and foster families. Have a sign-up sheet for folks to leave their names and contact information if they are interested in learning more about the foster program. It’s also nice to have informational signs and posters about your program.

**Volunteers/Staff – Who is going to run this thing?!**

You will likely need a few extra hands to help your event run smoothly. The easiest way to ensure your event runs smoothly is to make sure each task has a person assigned to it. The Baby Shower Task List Included in this document will give you a list of tasks that need to be completed, who is in charge of each task and a space to set a deadline for when each task should be completed. Please see the Volunteer Jobs section of the Baby Shower Task Checklist for volunteer job descriptions.

**Baby Shower Task Checklist**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Task** | **Who** | **Deadline** | **Notes** |
| **Setup** |  |  |  |
| Remove unnecessary items from event space |  |  |  |
| Cleaning - Sweep, Mop, Dust, Garbage |  |  |  |
| Hang Decorations |  |  |  |
| Set up Tables, Signs & Info, Refreshments |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Games** |  |  |  |
| Game #1 Guess the Number of Cat Cookies in a Jar |  |  |  |
| Game #2 Draw a Cat without Looking |  |  |  |
| Game #3 Guess the price |  |  |  |
| Create Guessing Slips |  |  |  |
| Procure Game Supplies |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Hosting** |  |  |  |
| Greeter at Front Door |  |  |  |
| Refreshment & Donation Area |  |  |  |
| Gift & Donation Control |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **PR & Marketing** |  |  |  |
| Create Invitation |  |  |  |
| Create Invite List |  |  |  |
| Create Facebook Event Page |  |  |  |
| Create Organization Website Event Page |  |  |  |
| Post Invite on Organization Website |  |  |  |
| Send Event Information to Local Media |  |  |  |
| Schedule Posts to Social Media |  |  |  |
| Include Information in Organization Newsletters |  |  |  |
| Have In-Kind Donation Forms Available for Event |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Signage** |  |  |  |
| Create Signs for Games |  |  |  |
| Create "Wish List" Handout |  |  |  |
| Create "Reasons to Foster" Signs |  |  |  |
| Create Event Sign for Front Door/Lobby |  |  |  |
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| **Donations Needed for Event** |  |  |  |
| Food & Drink Donation |  |  |  |
| Decorations |  |  |  |
| Cups, Plates, Napkins |  |  |  |
| Prizes for games |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Volunteer Jobs** |  |  |  |
| Photographer - 1 |  |  |  |
| Games Master - 2 |  |  |  |
| Greeter - 1 |  |  |  |
| Refreshment - 1 |  |  |  |
| Cash Donation Monitor - 1 |  |  |  |
| Set Up - 2 |  |  |  |
| Clean Up - 2 |  |  |  |
| Gift Donation Manager - 1 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **After The Event** |  |  |  |
| Post Photos to Social Media |  |  |  |
| Create Thank You Post for Social Media |  |  |  |
| Send Thank You Notes |  |  |  |
| Remove Décor |  |  |  |
| Organize Donated Items |  |  |  |
| Move Tables & Cages Back to Proper Locations |  |  |  |
| Sweep, Empty Garbage, Clean as Necessary |  |  |  |