

# Party Favor Fun!

*with Susan Cousineau of Lollipop Rainbow*



*From birthday parties to sleepovers to Valentine's Day to National Craft Month in May, and all year long, we're celebrating with some super fun party ideas featuring Susan Cousineau's enchanting **Magical Mermaid**, **Polka Dot Pond** and **So Sweet Love** collections!*

Little girls of all ages will love a **Magical Mermaid Party** full of underwater fantasy and adventure. And to get you started, Susan shares some of her favorite ideas to create a charming array of mermaid inspired party decorations, invites, activities and keepsakes.

**Crafting Tip:** When purchasing fusible web, choose a stronger "ultra-hold or heavier weight" fusible for an instant "no-sew" bond. If you wish to add some machine stitching to your projects, choose a lighter weight fusible.

Begin your mermaid party adventure with some keepsake invitations that are cute enough to frame! Simply decorate store-bought blank cards using the main mermaid fabrics (9655-0150 or 9655-0125) and some paper-backed fusible web. (**Tip:** For more information on creating fabric embellished cards, check out Susan's **So Sweet Love** Keepsake Card Tutorial on the [Marcus Mentions blog](#). Decorate the invitations with sparkly glitter, star shaped sequins and crystal rhinestones for that touch of "mermaid fairy" magic! Inside the card, write the party details then sprinkle some fun star or fish-shaped confetti.



Whip up some quick and easy favor bags (see photo) filled with girly themed treats and treasures. Mermaid tags make cute take-home ornament favors and are super easy to create by fusing the fabric mermaid motifs (9655-0150 or 9655-0125) onto pieces of stiffened felt. Simply cut out the mermaid shapes and punch a hole at the top for hanging. Glitter glue makes the wings extra sparkly.



Make some extra mermaid tags (without the punched hole) then hot glue the tags onto toothpicks for enchanting cupcake toppers.

Surprise the birthday girl with a super cute wall hanging and jewelry hanger made from the Magical Mermaid panel! You can find the complete instructions in the Spring issue of Craft Ideas Magazine or [online](#).

The wall hanging also makes an enchanting party decoration and the ribbon tabs are perfect for displaying some sparkly bracelet and necklace party favors... perfect for mermaid dress up fun!

The mermaid panel can also be used to play a "pin the tail on the mermaid" party game using cut-out paper mermaid tails and some removable stick-on Velcro dots.



*Hosting an Art Party? Stitch up these adorable Crayon Rolls for the guests! It's a great use of the border sections of the panel prints...you'll find the instructions for this Crayon Roll and more in [Craft ideas online](#).*

For quick and easy party bunting, cut several triangles out of the mermaid fabrics using pinking shears (so the edges do not fray). Glue or machine stitch the triangles sandwiched inside a strip of store-bought double fold bias tape. After the party, your little mermaid can use the fabric bunting to decorate her “under-the sea” bedroom.

For a fun party activity, use the fabric collection and a variety of girly trims and embellishments to make up some fun craft kits. Some ideas include:

**Mermaid Hoop Art:** Use wooden embroidery hoops to make instant fabric wall art. Decorate with glitter glue, rhinestones, sequins, ribbons, etc.

**Mermaid Fairy Wands:** Prior to the party, use fusible webbing to fuse the mermaid fabrics onto sheets of stiffened felt. Use simple template shapes (such as a fish or starfish) to cut out the shapes for the wand. Glue the shapes onto 12” wooden dowels then decorate with glitter, ribbons, gems and other girly trims.

**Mermaid Bookmarks:** Use the same idea for the tags and fairy wands, except cut the fused fabric and felt pieces into rectangular bookmark shapes. Punch a hole in the top to tie a piece of ribbon then decorate.

**Safety Note:** Always provide adult assistance and supervision when using any tools that could be hazardous to kids such as a hot iron or glue gun. To be extra safe, always use kid-friendly low-temp glue guns to avoid any unnecessary burns.

### *“Frog Pond” Party:*

Little tadpoles will love “hopping” into the party fun with these charming frog pond inspired ideas:

Use the **Magical Mermaid** ideas above as inspiration for transforming the **Polka Dot Pond** fabrics into a fun and playful party theme. You can use the fabric in the same way to create super cute invitations, favor bags and tags, cupcake toppers and bunting decorations.



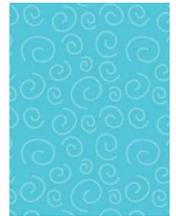


The little beaver in the pond loves to fish (see fabric 9653-0150)! With that as Susan's inspiration, try her idea for a fun "GO FISH" party game.



Simply sew a variety of fabric fish softies using a simple fish template as your guide. The trick is to hot glue a 1" circular magnet inside the fish (where the eyes would be) before you finish stuffing and sewing fish. Or you can use the circular magnets as the eyes of the fish and glue them on the outside. For the fishing rod, just hot glue some twine or cord wrapped around a wooden dowel then glue the end of the

twine or cord in between two 1" circular magnets. Place the stuffed fish into a small inflatable pool or drape your own pond with the aqua blue swirl fabric (9658-0150). For a whimsical touch, add some plastic lily pads and flowers into the pond. The kids can win a fun prize each time they catch a fish!



For another fun party activity, cut up a bunch of colorful fabric swatches, then have the kids glue or decoupage the scraps onto store-bought papier-mâché shapes. For a personal touch, use papier-mâché letter shapes that represent their first initial. The kids can then decorate the patchwork fabric letters with colorful ribbons, buttons, pom-poms, stickers, etc.

**Tip:** Prior to the party, iron fusible web onto the back of the main fabric (9653-0150). Then cut out the critter motifs (i.e. frog, alligator, turtle, beaver, snail and bugs) so the kids can use them in their crafting activities. The fusible web on the fabric will prevent the edges from fraying even when the paper backing is removed.

Introducing... **woodland** gypsy

Apply Susan's creative party ideas to a theme of woodland creatures with **WOODLAND GYPSY**, her newest collection for Studio 37!

She playfully blends the inspiration of magical dreams and fairytale fantasy with the power of dreamcatchers, and a vintage paisley for a modern Bohemian twist, "I loved the idea of protecting the forest with the legend of the "dream catcher," trapping the bad ones in the web and letting only the good dreams pass."

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See the entire collection [www.Studio37Fabrics.com](http://www.Studio37Fabrics.com)

