

family & spirit

Birthday fit for royalty

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Kids can enjoy parties like a princess — or a CEO

Once upon a time, children's birthday parties reached their pinnacle when groups of kiddies gorged themselves on pizza while playing in ball pits.

That time has passed.

From fairy princesses to business lessons, birthday parties these days

"I never had anything like this," she said, looking around at the birthday-party room in her shop, The Cranky Princess.

Painted bright pink with a mural of oversized garden flowers, the Crumpets and Crowns tea room is designed specifically with little princesses in mind.

Partygoers look the part with a selection of dress-up gowns, glittery accessories and tiaras. They dine with

Crumpets and Crowns

When Lauren Oselette was a little girl, she never had an over-the-top birthday party. Her annual celebrations were the standard pizza parties and cookouts.

Perhaps that's why she started the extravagant and charming Crumpets and Crowns birthday tea parties.

dainty china teacups and saucers — sipping lemonade rather than tea — and nibbling small sandwiches and cupcakes. There are even tea cookies with each guest's name written in icing.

"Little girls come in here and get so excited about the costumes," Oselette said. "Once they put on those costumes, they aren't hyper little kids.

