



INTRODUCTION AND PARTY INVITATIONS

Go, Diego, Go![™] is a popular Nick Jr. Show with Diego Marquez as the main character. He is an 8-year-old who loves and appreciates nature. If your children love the show and all things to do with nature and animals, this is a perfect party theme to throw.

Diego loves animals. For a thematic invitation, purchase green cardstock and cut out jungle snake animal shapes and place all of your party details on one side of the invitation. Have your birthday child decorate the other side of the snake with glitter glue, stickers, crayons, etc.

If you want to hand-deliver your kids' party invitations, purchase a box of *Fruit-Roll Ups*[®] and attach a small card with your party details and tie it around the *Fruit-Roll Ups* using a thin ribbon. A tasty invitation!

Use language that gets your party guests excited for your party. As an example: *Hola Amigos! ____ is turning ____...so grab your Rescue Packs and join him on a Rainforest Birthday Adventure!*

Adventure Date:

Adventure Time:

Rainforest Location:

Ask your party guests to bring their snake invitation with them to the party and place their snakes on a jungle vine at the front entrance to the party.

DECORATIONS

Go, Diego, Go! colors are those that you would find in a jungle — green, brown — as well as orange and bright blue colors — to match Diego's T-shirt. Use party goods in these colors to decorate your party area.

At the entranceway to the party, hang different shades of green streamers from the top



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of your door so that the guests will have to pass through a thick layer of jungle streamers to enter the party. Lots of fun!

Using orange, green, and brown construction paper, create long monkey chains to hang from the ceiling in the party area. When the guests arrive with their snake invitations, hang them on the monkey chains for added décor.

To make a jungle canopy in your home, blow up various shades of green balloons and place them in a large pile in an area of the room. The kids can run through them or play with the jungle canopy during the party.

From green cardstock, cut out jungle leaves and hole punch at the top. Place string through the holes to create *Jungle Vines* to frame the party table and doorway entrance.

Tie orange, brown, and green party streamers over the party table. Set your table with a solid green tablecloth, and then alternate orange, brown, and green tableware (including plates, napkins, plasticware, and cups) on the party table. For fun confetti, place butcher paper on the party table and scatter crayons across the table for the kids to color with while at the party table.

For a table centerpiece, place a few jungle stuffed animals and tie spotted balloons to the animals. Once your balloons are blown up, draw animal spots on them for thematic fun.

GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

Face Painting. When the kids arrive to the party, paint jaguar faces onto each party guest. Paint whiskers, noses, ears, and spots on their faces to get them into the mood of the party.

Paper Snake Twist. While the kids wait for all of the guests to arrive, have them create one large paper snake. Have pre-cut pieces of green heavy cardstock available for the kids to decorate using craft materials. When all guests have arrived and completed their part of the snake, use glue or staple the paper snake together to make one long slithering snake. Once completed, take a jungle tour with the paper snake throughout the party area. Have the birthday child lead the group. The paper snake is a wonderful memento from the party — make sure all of the party guests sign the snake and give him a name!

Rescue Pack Charades. Before the party, with your birthday child, think of all of the different animals that could be rescued by Diego. Using a backpack, place slips of paper with the names of the animals on them into the bag for the kids to draw. Each guest must draw an animal name from the Rescue Pack and act out for the rest of the guests to guess.

Musical Rescue Pack. Stuff a small backpack full of Diego's observation tools, e.g. a



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small magnifying glass, small notebook, pencils, binoculars, etc. Have the kids sit in a circle and pass the Rescue Pack to music. When the music stops, the person holding the pack is out. The last person in the circle wins the Rescue Pack!

Centipede Relay Race. Divide the kids into two teams and have them place their arms around the team member in front of them. Set up a small obstacle course, or simple points around the party area, and have the teams move through the course without removing their arms from around each other. First team done wins. If a team breaks apart, the team must begin again.

Other Animal Relay Races. Keep the same two teams, and have the kids race from one end of the room and back to the line doing a crab walk, a bear walk, and a snake crawl.

Act Out the Animal. Find or create pictures of animals (elephant, chimp, gorilla, jaguar, etc.) and pass out the pictures to each of your guests. Make sure at least three kids have the same animal pictures. Tell the children not to show anyone else what animal they have and each person acts out what animal he or she is. As they act out, the kids should watch to see who is acting similarly. The kids that have the same animal should find each other. First group to figure out who all their team members are – wins.

Spanish Name Game. Choose several different animals and write their names in Spanish on small slips of paper. Have enough slips to match the number of kids attending your party. Each person chooses an animal, reads the Spanish name, and then acts out the animal, and the rest of the kids must guess the animal. You can play this as a team or individually. Whoever guesses the most Spanish names correctly, wins!

A Diego Rescue Mission. Send the kids on an Adventure Mission! Gather up your stuffed and plastic animals around your home and place them into dangerous spots that the kids must rescue them from. As an example, place an alligator stuck behind a rock in a small pool of water, hang a stuffed bear by one paw from the ceiling about to drop, a snake may be slithering through the kitchen into the cookie jar, etc. The kids must take turns rescuing all of the animals as they find them around their home. You can provide the rescuers with a few tools to help their mission, e.g. magnifying glass, binoculars, rope, child-friendly scissors, etc. This mission can have as many stops as you like for your guests.



PARTY MENU

Let the jungle inspire your party menu!

Serve **gummy worms** and **green fruit leather** as snacks throughout the party.

Create your own **Jungle Trail Mix** using chocolate chips, banana chips, nuts (be sure to check for guest allergies!), shredded coconut, and other dried fruits.

Make a batch of **Banana Pops**: freeze small bananas onto wooden sticks and serve



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during the party. Dip the bananas into melted chocolate or flavored yogurt for additional flavor.

Create a **Crunchy Taco Bar** with all of the fixin's. Place the taco shells into the oven to make them crispy and then fill with shredded chicken or ground beef and let the kids fill them up with toppings: guacamole, sour cream, tomatoes, lettuce, shredded cheese, olives, etc.

Make **Fruit Smoothies**. Any type of concoction will work, but strawberries and bananas is always a favorite choice. Have the kids blend the fruit to make this frothy drink.

Serve Diego's favorite: **Rice Pudding**.

Create fun **Animal Cakes**. Bake your favorite sheet cake and cut out shapes with various animal cookie cutters. Use white frosting to frost the animals and place small candies in bowls for the kids to decorate their animal cakes. Loads of fun!

PARTY FAVORS

Send your little amigos home with a **Scope** for their own nature adventures. Create a scope using a paper towel cardboard holder. Glue brown and green crepe paper onto the cardboard holder and attach clear plastic to one end of the holder so that the kids can use the scope for discoveries. Fill the holder with your Jungle Trail Mix too as an added treat. Close off the other end with more plastic wrap that can easily be taken off to eat the goodies.

Other party favor ideas: send the adventurers home with Diego stickers, small binoculars, small notebook and pencil, small plastic animals, fruit leather, etc. There are many little items to hand off that easily match this theme.

Don't forget to send out thank you notes from your Diego Adventure Party thanking your guests for their presents and for attending your child's party.



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