

Published February 15th, 2023

## Parks and Rec's Teddy Bear Tea reaches whole new level of fun

By Vera Kochan



Designers craft their teddy bears' T-shirts Photo  
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of the Moraga Youth Involvement Committee kept the event running smoothly for the 59 attendees (more than half of which were children) that also included a few dads and brothers.

Round tables were set with springtime-green colored table cloths, silverware, white plates, paper napkins decorated with a teddy bear, and black tea or herbal tea bags tucked into white, crockery-style mugs. Pastel-hued crockery tea pots full of hot water were brought to the table for a parental serve-yourself experience. Apple juice was also served.

The crown jewel of any tea party is always the three-tiered plate stand as center piece, containing delectable finger foods. On the menu were a wide array of tea sandwiches consisting of: cream cheese and cucumber, egg salad with sweet red pepper, ham and cheese, pinwheels containing either turkey, roast beef or ham, and vanilla cream cheese with strawberry jam on sweet potato biscuits. Additional offerings were: miniature Quiche Lorraine or Quiche Florentine, assorted cheeses, fresh strawberries, and grapes.

As if that wasn't enough, a wide assortment of small desserts dazzled the eyes and taste buds of the "pinkies up" crowd: mini-cupcakes, brownies, and shortbread cookies, along with madeleines, miniature blueberry or chocolate chip muffins.

Once guests had their fill, the children scampered off into the Fireside Room in order to decorate a small white T-shirt for either their white or brown stuffed teddy bear to wear. The craft table was loaded with multi-colored felt pens, sticker gems, ribbons and more. Most of the kids wasted no time in naming their new members of the family. Kenna, 5, named her bear Diamond and drew pink hearts onto the shirt with the additional touch of a pink diamond sticker gem (ergo the name). Maria, 5, decorated her bear's shirt with blue marker designs that would put Versace to shame. Her bear, Mia, is now quite the fashion plate.

The Parks and Recreation Department's 2023 Spring Activity Guide is just around the corner. Be sure to check out all of the upcoming new activities along with old favorites.

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