

## Brazil

In Brazil, children have a birthday cake to celebrate. Traditionally, you are supposed to give the first slice to the most important person. It could be either a friend or relative! People also clap hands while singing 'Happy Birthday'.

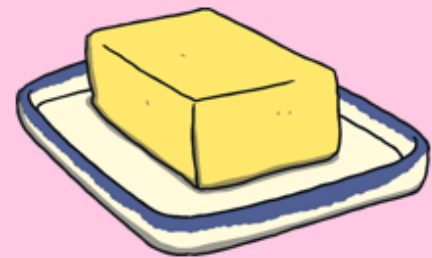


## China

Traditionally in China, people often eat long noodles on their birthday. The long noodles symbolise long life and longevity.

## Canada

Atlantic Canada, it is traditional to rub butter onto somebody's nose on their birthday. This tradition is supposed to bring good luck because it makes the child so slippery that bad luck cannot catch them.



## Denmark

In Denmark, lots of people celebrate birthdays using flags. If a flag is flying outside a house, then it means it is the birthday of somebody inside. It is traditional for children to have gifts placed around their beds while they are sleeping.

## Ireland

Ireland, children are often given birthday bumps. People hold the arms and legs of the person and bump them up and down. Children receive the same number of bumps as their age, plus one more for luck.



## Israel

On their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday, Jewish girls become a batmitzvah. On their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday, Jewish boys become a barmitzvah. In Jewish tradition this means they have the same rights as adults. These birthdays are usually celebrated with religious ceremonies and parties which are also called Bat Mitzvah and Bar Mitzvah.

## India

Often, children in India will wear brightly coloured clothes on their birthdays. They might also take chocolates or other treats to school to share with their friends.



## Iran

Birthdays are celebrated with cake, special food and candles. Friends and family are invited for a small party at home. It is customary for men and women to celebrate in separate rooms. Traditionally, the women will prepare the food for the party.

## Mexico

One birthday tradition in Mexico is hitting the piñata. A piñata is made out of papier-mâché and is usually made in the shape of an animal and filled with sweets. The piñata is hung from the ceiling and people take it in turns to hit the piñata until the sweets fall out. Everybody then shares the sweets.



## New Zealand

If there is a birthday in New Zealand, some people clap the number of years the person has been alive, plus one more for good luck.