



## When Life Changes

ceremonies for remembering and celebrating life

### Naming Ceremony - Make the Occasion Special Just Some Ideas....

<b>Balloon release</b>	Uplifting, great for children, 'Soaring spirit, encourage spirit to bloom and grow'. Good at the end of the ceremony. You can get balloons of all shapes and sizes.
<b>Book of Wishes</b>	Ask guests to sign a book and write their wishes for the child and future
<b>Light Candles</b>	Ask godparents/grandparents/supporting adults to make a promise while lighting a candle. Make wishes and promise that on each birthday you will remember and celebrate what a miracle the child is.
<b>Sand Ceremony</b>	A ceremony that involves pouring layers of coloured sands into a vase for keeping. Parents and others can make promises as each layer is added. Colours have different meanings. A deeply meaningful ceremony, with a lasting keepsake that can involve parents and others.
<b>Plant a tree/flower/shrub</b>	Plants represent new life, nurturing and growth and also leave a lasting legacy of love and commitment to a child
<b>Wish Cards</b>	Ask guests to write a wish on a card and place them in a box for the child to keep or place them in a memory book. You can even purchase cards with sayings on one side for example... One idea is for guests to hang their wishes on a tree during the ceremony making a tree of wishes
<b>Photo signature frame</b>	Have a photo of the child with a large boarder around it that can be signed by guests. It can then be framed and kept forever as memento of the special day.
<b>Hand print collage</b>	Messy but a lovely idea – get everyone or key people to make a handprint on a canvas or paper
<b>Birth stones and pebbles</b>	Present birthstones and their meaning to the child during the ceremony. place pebbles in a dish while adding personal wishes.
<b>Presents &amp; gifts</b>	Parents and others can be invited to present a gift to the child during the ceremony
<b>Time capsule or memory box</b>	Add items of significance to a time capsule or memory box that represent the meaning and 'history' of the day. Guests can be asked to add items too.
<b>Music and Songs</b>	Not much of an explanation needed but it's great to have music in a ceremony and could be a way of joining together in adult or children's songs, or involve any talented people you know
<b>Blowing bubbles</b>	Get children or just everyone to blow bubbles into the air while making wishes or promises. Fun, meaningful and spectacular to see.
<b>Greet the child</b>	Pass the baby round the guests to make a promise, or ask them to shake hands with an older child

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