



# KIDDIE CORNER

For parents with young children, weddings can be stressful occasions. Finding a babysitter or keeping a watchful eye on children during the reception often takes away from the fun. A babysitting service based in Newark gives parents an afternoon or evening of freedom while assuring them that their children are safe and having a great time of their own.

THE WEDDING SITTERS (373-4884, [www.theweddingsitters.com](http://www.theweddingsitters.com)) can be hired either by the wedding party or by individual guests and will babysit at the guest's hotel room or in a separate room at the reception venue. To keep the children occupied, the sitters host princess tea parties for girls and cartoon character tea parties for boys. They serve juice, tea sandwiches, cupcakes and other snacks. In addition, they provide crafts, games and a Disney movie. They even do a special story time for the youngest children.

Mother-daughter owners Rita Vitro and Laura Walker began the company a year and half ago after identifying a large market for such a service in the area. They have done parties in Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and they are beginning to branch out to New York. The sitters are adults with an average of 25 years of experience in child care, Walker says. To ensure sufficient supervision, there is a ratio of one sitter for every four children. The Wedding Sitters charge an hourly rate per child, and prices vary by state.

— *Jaimee Horowitz*