For Casual Gatherings, Keep It Fun And Easy

(NAPSA)—When planning a last minute casual party, the first two rules are to keep it easy and make it fun.

Sometimes there just isn't time to prepare things from scratch. Good thing there are plenty of party foods that can be prepared without much fuss at all. Grocery stores stock trays of cheese and crackers, vegetables, shrimp, chicken wings, deli meats and more. These are all great options, especially for last minute planning and can feed plenty.

One of the all-time favorite party foods is Hillshire Farm Lit'l Smokies Smoked Sausage. Most people have had these little sausages simmering in BBQ sauce at someone's party, but many forget they are an easy way to add something just about everyone will love to any party menu. They're great for adults and kids.

If you're looking for something a little different than just adding BBQ sauce, try one of the simple recipes below. They can be a hit with everyone and take only minutes to prepare.

In addition to having great food on hand, there are other simple ideas that add to the event without creating more work for you. Rather than using traditional plates and platters, pick up printed, themed paper plates, napkins and plastic trays. This adds to the atmosphere and saves you time on clean up. Keep a disposable camera or two on hand to capture the fun for your guests. The key is to keep it simple but enjoyable-a casual gathering soon can become too formal if you overplan.

For more recipes and ideas, visit www.hillshirefarm.com.



Party foods that are tasty and comfort guests can also be easy to prepare.

Pigs in Blanket

1 package Hillshire Farm[®] Lit'l Smokies[™] smoked sausage (any variety)

1 (8-oz.) can refrigerated crescent dinner rolls

Heat oven to 375°F. Cut each dinner roll in quarters. Wrap each Lit'l Smokie smoked sausage in one quarter roll. Place on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake at 375°F for 15 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm with ketchup and mustard, if desired.

Lit'l Smokies Corn Wraps

- 1 (11.5-oz.) pkg. refrigerated cornbread twist dough
- 1 (1-lb.) pkg. Hillshire Farm® Lit'l Smokies[™] smoked sausage (any variety)

Separate dough into 16 strips; cut each strip in half. Wrap dough around Lit'l Smokies smoked sausage and press ends together to seal. Bake as directed on dough package. Serve with Wild Raspberry Salsa: Mix 1 cup of your favorite salsa with 1 cup of seedless raspberry jam.