

Communication and Language: Celebrations and Festivals - Building Understanding

Reading and Composition: Festive Recipe (Sugar Cookies)



Introduction

This resource pack will guide you in encouraging a child to read a recipe (from a sequence of real objects and or symbols/pictures). It will also guide how to encourage the actions of the recipe with single and two-word prompts. At the end, the child is encouraged to recall the sequence and 'compose' or 'rewrite' the recipe. This lesson incorporates key writing, reading and composition skills.



For this lesson you will need

- Recommended, but not required:
 - Relevant symbols & signs
 - Ingredients for the recipe
 - Festive decorations for the cookies



Getting ready

- Reduce distractions within the room (turn off anything that creates light or sound)
- Prepare your child to be 'ready for learning' - this may require a run around outside first, a snack, or an opportunity to re-position and settle into a comfy chair
- Create interest by sharing and exploring props / resources
- Show them you're excited for the lesson! Build curiosity and anticipation!



For the grown ups...

- 2³/₄ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 cup butter, softened
- 1½ cups white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Method

Bowl 1 (med): Flour, baking soda, baking powder.

Bowl 2 (big): Butter, sugar, eggs, vanilla (cream together)

Add bowl 1 to bowl 2

Dollop a teaspoon at a time on baking tray lined with baking paper

Bake 8-10 mins on 190c.

Recipe copied from the baking notebooks of the lesson author and is not subject to copyright



Step one - create a readable recipe for your child

A sequence of objects in a row

A written guide with key words only

A symbol or picture sequence

(Top tip - be sure that all sequences flow left to right or top to bottom, just like written text, unless the child's first language indicates otherwise)



Step two - check for understanding and review expectations with the child

Check for understanding of key verbs (actions) and key nouns (names of things in your recipe)

Prompt with questions -

“Show me”, “find”, “where is” or “what’s that”...

Challenge - “how many”, “what colour”, “what do we use to stir?”



Step three - follow the recipe

Follow the recipe with your child using key verbs -

POUR STIR SHAKE SQUEEZE

Use key nouns from recipe -

BUTTER FLOUR EGG SUGAR BOWL BAKE

Question -

WHAT'S NEXT?! WHAT'S THAT? FIND... SHOW ME....

Challenge - combine key verb and noun together for two word phrases.



Step four - reflect on the recipe

Use a sequencing panel like the one included in this pack to reflect on the recipe and remember what you did together.

Use the key words and put them in a rough order to indicate what you did.

Challenge - throw in a 'red herring' (something that you didn't actually use in the recipe!) to see if they notice.



Sequence



Sequence

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Sequence

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Communication and Language

Celebrations and Festivals Unit 4: Lesson 3

Reading and Composition: Festive Recipes

Make it easier

Repetition, repetition, repetition. Drama! Use big, dramatic pauses and silences to build anticipation in play.

Make options from two when asking a question, rather than offering the whole selection.

Always show the action first.

Make it harder

Keep the questions open ended so that the child has to answer without support.

Add in a 'why' question.

Encourage child to verbalise as well as using symbols or pictures. Offer a range of options for all choices. Encourage independence.

More ideas

Apply this method to other recipes or sequences, such as planting seedlings or washing the car. Learn more about different foods shared at festivals in other cultures of the UK, such as traditional foods of Eid, Hanukkah, Holi or Wesak.

