



NUMERACY THROUGH COOKING: LOWER KEY STAGE TWO

Cooking is a brilliant way to support teaching and learning within this age group. Here are a few great ideas to get started with.

THE CONTEXT: COME DINE WITH ME

Plan a simple meal for an occasion – such as soup for harvest lunch or a pasta bake for someone's birthday. Looking at the recipe, how many people does it say it serves? Discuss how many people you could invite to the meal and how that would affect the amount of ingredients you need and the cost of the meal.

THE ACTIVITIES

- **Double trouble:** Demonstrate how you can double the ingredients to cater for double the number of guests – showing children that doubling = $\times 2$. Then double them again to give the amount multiplied by 4
- **Go halves:** Ask children to halve the ingredients to show that halving = $\div 2$
- **Scale up:** Now imagine you are making the recipe for a larger party – scale up the quantities by 10 and 100 and multiples of 10 and 100. Divide larger quantities by 10 and 100 to show how you could use recipes designed for large numbers of people
- **Big business:** Calculate the cost of making your recipe and then scale this by 10, 100 and 1000 to explore the cost of making the product commercially if you were a manufacturer

THE CONTEXT: THE PERFECT PIZZA

Making pizza from scratch is a fun and simple activity that highlights how you can make pizza a healthy dish using a thin base and lots of vegetables as toppings. It also creates a basic shape for exploring shape, symmetry, cross sections and angles.

THE ACTIVITIES

- **Mirror image:** Design and make a pizza topping that has 1 or 2 lines of symmetry and describe cross sections in terms of rotational symmetry
- **Take a slice:** Cut your pizza into slices to show different degrees of angles (including the whole 360°)
- **The right lines:** Ask children to create horizontal and vertical lines on their pizza using sticks of carrot or peppers
- **One direction:** Turn your pizza into a compass with vegetables to denote each of the eight compass points





THE CONTEXT: WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Learning to handle simple data takes a healthy turn in this fun and educational exercise. Children develop their own survey to ask other pupils what they have eaten for lunch that day and then compare it with the Eatwell plate to see how healthy the school is as a whole.

THE ACTIVITIES

- **Healthy proportions:** Discuss the Eatwell plate together and how it shows the proportions of each food group that make up a healthy diet (eg fruit and vegetables; meat, fish, eggs and beans; milk and dairy foods etc)
- **Question time:** Help children devise a method of collecting data that will enable them to compare the proportions of different food groups that children are eating. Compare how scales with intervals of different step sizes might impact on data
- **Sort it:** Once children have collected the data, visually sort the data using Venn diagrams or Carroll diagrams
- **Open to interpretation:** Ask children to report on their findings – how does their survey sample compare with the Eatwell plate? What does it show?

TIP: Find recipes online at www.focusonfoodcookschool.co.uk or order a *Skill Up, Start Cooking* pack at www.focusonfood.org

