

Pancake Day - Pancake recipe

Pancake Day is a fun way to support children's mathematical skills, knowledge and language development as well as being a great excuse to create a tasty treat!

Create the pancakes by asking the children to use their problem-solving skills to work out how they should be made and what equipment they need for the job.

Learning aims

- Develop control when handling jugs, spoons, bowls etc
- Try new foods and textures
- Eat a healthy range of food
- Begin to negotiate and solve problems
- Co-operate with other children
- Make comparisons about quantity
- Match numbers with quantity
- Use language, such as more than and less than.



Resources

- Our children's pancake recipe (download button below) to see ingredients and utensils
- A range of healthy fillings, such as strawberries, blueberries and yogurt or squeezed oranges.

Activity outline

- Cooking with children provides an ideal opportunity to develop mathematical skills and introduce new language
- Split children into pairs and give them a copy of our children's pancake recipe (download button below)
- Encourage the children to work together, negotiating who does what and solving problems together
- Encourage the children to find the ingredients and utensils independently
- Read the method with children
 - Ask young children to identify the pictures
 - Ask pre-school children to sound out the initial letters of some words
- Support the children to measure out the ingredients into the bowl
 - Point out the numbers on the scales to help children make connections between numbers and quantity
- Talk to the children about risks in the kitchen and help them manage them safely
 - For example, cooking with a hot frying pan is a job for a grown-up helper
- Enjoy your pancakes!



Extending the activity

- 'The Runaway Pancake' is a much loved and hilarious traditional folk tale from Germany and Norway - Why not read this book with the children following your tasty pancakes?
- You could also set up your home corner with real cooking utensils for a role-play activity
 - You may wish to provide some flour and water or malleable dough for playing with
- Cut out utensil pictures with name labels underneath and display them in the home corner to reinforce children's learning and help them understand that words carry meaning.

Special considerations

As always, with any cooking activity, make sure that you consider any health and safety risks that may be associated with using heat and utensils. Ensure that children are supervised at all times by staff members and that an adult helper is available when using the cooking hob.