

Add & Enhance - "Fun in the Kitchen"

Enhancing the learning environment is easy! Here are a list of materials you may want to add to your learning areas to enhance the unit, "Fun in the Kitchen" as well as provide opportunities for both free and guided play. Please add other materials you feel would your children would enjoy as well. See our, "The Environment & the Gee Whiz Curriculum" for more information on materials you should have in your program in these areas.

ART AREA

- Assorted cooking tools (plastic & safe for children)
- Old cooking magazines
- Recipe cards
- Paper plates (small and large)
- Cookie cutters
- Playdough
- Empty berry baskets
- Empty food cartons/plastic containers (clean)

DRAMATIC PLAY/DRESS-UP

- Toy cooking pots/pans/dishes
- Play kitchen
- Plastic foods
- Toy shopping cart
- Kitchen tools (plastic and safe for children to handle)
- Paper grocery bags
- Empty food boxes



BLOCKS

- Assorted multicultural people figures
- Empty food boxes (stuff with old newspaper and tape shut)
- Large cooking pots
- Pancake flippers/turners
- Pictures of kitchens posted on the wall



LITERACY & WRITING

- Books about cooking (see Book List in Teaching Guide for suggestions)
- Assorted writing tools (both thin & thick: markers, crayons, pencils, etc.)
- Old cooking magazines
- Cookbooks (all types of foods)
- Recipe cards
- Photos of people cooking (multicultural)

GROSS MOTOR PLAY & MUSIC/MOVEMENT (indoors and outdoors)

- Pots and pans (old)
- Wooden or plastic spoons (old)
- Bubbles and baking pans (see p. 13)
- Baskets and plastic fruits/vegetables
- Songs about cooking foods
- Child's gardening tools
- Toy shopping cart

MANIPULATIVE, SCIENCE, MATH

- Colanders (for water and sand) & fine motor (see pic)
- Old cooking pots/pans (for sand/water/mud)
- Kitchen timer
- Slotted spoons with pieces of ribbon (for weaving practice)
- Plastic food boxes & lids (for matching)
- Dust pan and broom

