

# Making Apple Pizzas

October 21, 2011



The children had the opportunity to make apple pizzas after their field trip to Paugh's Apple Orchard. To prepare their apple pizza each child followed instruction cards. The first card instructed them to write their name on the "map" of the baking sheet. Next, the children took one piece of dough and placed it on the baking sheet. They used the "map" to help them place their dough in the correct spot. The third step was to brush the dough with butter. After that, the children counted fifteen pieces of apple and placed them on their pizza. Then they

added three shakes of cinnamon sugar. The pizza was ready for the oven!

Making apple pizzas allowed the children to make their snack using apples from the farm they visited. They perceived the activity as fun, but there were many embedded learning opportunities. Each child practiced writing their name twice. The first was when they arrived for the day and chose whether to make their pizza "now" or "later". They wrote their name for a second time on the "map" of the baking sheet. The children had the opportunity to use instruction cards, which supports children's literacy development. The children utilized the instruction cards by using the words and pictures to determine what they needed to do. The last step of the activity was to determine "how many more" pizzas needed to be made before we could bake them. The children were excited as they used math skills in order to determine when the pizzas could go into the oven.



Cooking activities in school can provide many meaningful experiences for young children. Integrating cooking activities into curriculum allows teachers to observe students' development and to work towards developmental milestones. To make the apple pizzas each child needed to count fifteen pieces of apple using a toothpick. This one instruction integrated counting and fine motor skills. Countless learning opportunities can be incorporated into meaningful cooking activities with young children.