

Making Menus

- Materials** food magazines and grocery store inserts
scissors
cardboard or oak tag
glue
pens and pencils
number stickers or price stickers (if available)
- What to do**
1. Encourage the children to cut out pictures of foods from magazines or inserts.
 2. When they have cut out a few pictures, they can glue them to one side of a piece of oak tag or cardboard.
 3. Encourage them to write the name of the food and the price next to each picture (help them as needed). Children can use number or price stickers, if desired.
 4. Children can use their menus in restaurant dramatic play.

Related books *Chicken Soup With Rice* by Maurice Sendak
Don't Forget the Bacon by Pat Hutchins
Pancakes for Breakfast by Tomie DePaola

 Shirley Salach, Northwood, NH

May I Take Your Order, Please?

- Materials** picture menus (some restaurants have free picture menus)
grocery store inserts
laminating machine
scissors
glue
construction paper
- What to do**
1. If possible, get free picture menus from a few restaurants and laminate them. Keep a few intact, and cut apart the other laminated menus to get individual pictures of the various food products.

2. If you don't have picture menus, make your own. Simply cut out pictures of various food products from your local grocery store inserts and advertisements. Glue the pictures onto construction paper to make your menus. Make sure to cut out several pictures of the same food products, so that some are on the menu and some are not.
Tip: Ask parents to donate grocery store inserts from their newspapers. This way you will have multiple copies of the same food products.
3. Encourage the children to take turns playing the role of waiter or waitress while the rest of the children play the part of customers.
4. Customers place orders by pointing to food product on the menu. The waiter or waitress tries to remember what the customer orders, goes back into the "kitchen," and picks up the matching food product pictures.
5. The waiter or waitress delivers the food pictures to the customer. If the order is correct, the children switch roles. This continues until each child has had a chance to be a waiter or waitress.
6. This is a great way to help children improve their memory skills.

Related books *Big Jimmy's Kum Kau Chinese Take Out* by Ted Lewin
Breakfast at Danny's Diner by Judith Bauer Stamper
Brown Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
Green Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
How Are You Peeling? Foods With Moods by Saxton Freymann
The Moon and Riddles Diner and the Sunnyside Cafe by Nancy Willard
My Favorite Foods by Dana Meachen Rau
Night of the Moonjellies by Mark Shasha
Orange Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
Red Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
Sorting Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
White Foods by Patricia Whitehouse
Yellow Foods by Patricia Whitehouse

 Mike Krestar, Latrobe, PA

May I Take Your Order?

Materials

- pictures of waitresses and waiters
- aprons
- small notepads
- pens and pencils
- small table and chairs