Leader's Guide

Healthy Cooking Styles

Have you ever tried sautéing with water or prepared a boiled salad? It is easy to get in a rut and prepare the same foods in the same way. The food you eat should be delicious and satisfying. Start with fresh, high quality ingredients and choose cooking styles that enhance the food's flavor and appearance. Let's take a closer look at how different cooking styles affect the flavor and texture of food.

Cooking is an art form. Not everyone considers themselves an artist, but when it comes to food everyone should know the basics. When putting together a menu for a nutritious and attractive meal, there is a lot to consider. The color, texture, and energy a food contributes to a dish are important to note. The fact sheet emphasizes the preparation of healthy and colorful vegetable and grain dishes that complete a meal. The United States Department of Agriculture recommends that our plates should include a large portion of vegetables and whole grains each day.

Plan variety into your menus to ensure you consume a broad range of nutrients, achieve a balance of nutrition and flavor, and enhance the enjoyment of your meal. The goal is food that is both nutritious and delicious.

Lesson Objectives/Outcomes

Participants will

- Acquire skills to prepare vegetables and grains in at least five ways;
- » Understand the health benefits of preparing foods with less oil; and
- » Understand the importance of consuming more vegetables and whole grains.

Intended Audiences

 Adult groups of any age, including community groups, family and community education groups (FCE)



- » Youth audiences, 4-H groups, FCS classes, after-school programs
- » Youth and adult cooking classes

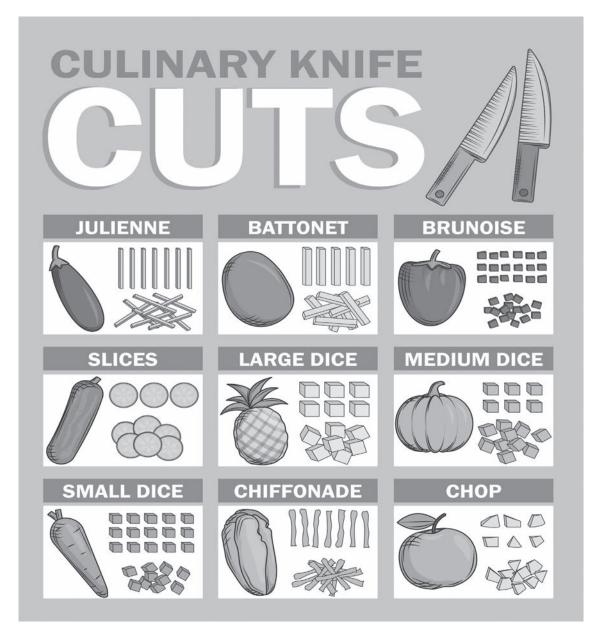
Preparation

- » Read the "Healthy Cooking Styles" fact sheet (MF3350) and review this leader's guide for suggested activities. Familiarize yourself with the terms and strategies outlined in them.
- » Make copies of the evaluation tool on page 3 of this guide.

Presenting the Information

- » Give each participant a copy of the fact sheet.
- » If space and time allow, share different cutting styles and prepare one of the recipes to sample. Make copies of the illustration of different knife cuts on page 2 to share with participants. If facilities or time constraints do not allow for





a hands-on demonstration, consider serving samples of a prepared dish.

» Ask participants to complete the evaluation for the program. Thank them for their participation.

Community Activities

- » Teach a cooking class in your community. You may want to charge a small fee to cover the cost of food.
- » Demonstrate a healthy cooking style during a WIC clinic to encourage young families to prepare whole food instead of using highly processed foods.

Resources/References

Albert, Rachel, Cooking with Rachel, George Ohsawa Macrobiotic Foundation, Oroville, CA 95965

American Institute for Cancer Research, The New American Plate Cookbook, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, CA

Brown, Simon G., Modern-day Macrobiotics, North Atlantic Books, Berkeley, CA

Christina Pirello, Cooking the Whole Foods Way, published by the Berkley Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Putnam Inc., New York, NY 10014.

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Evaluation

After participating in this program I gained knowledge about:								
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree			
Healthy cooking styles for preparing vegetables and								
grains.								
Different ways to cut vegetables before cooking.								
How cooking a food in a certain way affects its texture and nutrition.								
After participating in this program, I plan to:								
	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree			
Make an effort to try one of the healthy cooking styles presented here.								
Prepare dishes with lower fat content.								

One thing I learned from this program that I did not know before was:

One thing I wanted to learn from this program or would like to learn in the future is:

Overall, how	valuable was this program t	o you	. <u></u> ؟					
□ Not at al	l 🗖 Somewhat valuable		Valuable		Very valuable			
Please provide	e any additional comments	you n	nay have:					
Gender:	□ Male □ Female		Prefer not to re	spond				
Please indicate your county:								
Marital status	:							
□ Single	□ Single, living w/partne	er	□ Widov	ved	□ Married	□ Separated/Divorced		
\Box Prefer not to respond								
Thank you for completing this evaluation. We appreciate your feedback.								
Please return	this form to:							



Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

Donna Krug

Reviewed by:

Sharolyn Jackson, K-State Research and Extension, Northeast Area FCS specialist Lori Wuellner, K-State Research and Extension, Wyandotte County FCS Agent Natalie Fullerton, Kansas Rural Center

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