

MAKE MINE TURKEY

SUBJECT: Mathematics

GRADE: 4

AGRICULTURAL TOPIC: Poultry

CONCEPT: II

STUDENT SKILL

The student will formulate problems from everyday and mathematical situations.

LEARNER OBJECTIVE

The student will learn to interpret data in grocery advertisements and compute costs. The student will create a menu and compute the cost of a turkey dinner.

LESSON

A. Step-by-Step Instructions

1. Starting a few weeks ahead, have students bring grocery ads to class.
2. Share background material. Students may complete the activity as a group project or on an individual basis.
3. Have students “shop” through the ads, making lists of the items they will need to prepare a turkey dinner. Students should decide how many people they want to invite to dinner and shop for the best buys.
4. Have each student write out the cost of each item on his or her list and compute the total cost of the meal.

B. Background

Turkey may have been on the menu for the first Thanksgiving. That’s because the forests of the New World were full of all kinds of wild game, including wild turkey, quail, pheasant and deer. Turkeys run wild in many parts of Oklahoma today, but most people buy their Thanksgiving turkeys at the grocery store these days.

*Wild turkey doesn’t taste the same as **domesticated** turkey. There are several reasons for that. Wild turkeys don’t eat the same things as domesticated turkey. Wild turkeys have less white meat because they move around more and are not the same breed as domesticated turkeys.*

Most turkey producers provide large amounts of special food and water for their birds. Turkeys fed this way can grow to 25 pounds within five months. Some Oklahoma farmers range-feed small flocks of turkeys. That means they turn them loose to find their own grain, weed seed and insects to eat. Five weeks before it’s time to sell them, the farmer will start to feed them whole corn, so they’ll get plump. Turkeys are sometimes difficult to raise because they are very curious. They must be taught to eat from special feeders and waterers, just like other baby animals.

C. Resources

Books

Aliki, *Corn is Maize: The Gift of the Indians*, Harper Collins, 1976..Anderson, George, *First Thanksgiving Feast*, Random House, 1990.

Cohen, Miriam, *Don’t Eat Too Much Turkey*, Dell, 1988.

Conaway, Judith, *Happy Thanksgiving: Things to Make and Do*, Troll, 1986.

Devlin, Wende, and Harry Devlin, *Cranberry Thanksgiving*, Macmillan, 1984.

D. Evaluation

The teacher should evaluate each meal plan on an individual basis. Did the students enjoy the activity?

E. Related Activities

1. Have students create well-balanced meals by cutting out pictures of different foods from magazines. Have them put their meals together by gluing the pictures onto paper plates.
2. Yams, or sweet potatoes, are also associated with Thanksgiving meals. Bring a sweet potato to class. Insert three toothpicks into the middle of the potato, and put it in a glass of water, with the toothpicks resting on the top of the glass. Have students keep a written or a picture record of the plant's progress.
3. Teach students how to serve the meals they have planned. Using paper plates, and plasticware, teach students the proper way to set a table and proper table manners. Have students practice during lunch.
4. Create a store in you classroom with empty cartons, cans, etc. Price the "groceries," and have students shop and buy with only \$25 to spend. Or have them shop and create a meal from the packages found in the class grocery store. Then have students figure out how much they have spent.