

Happy Pancake Day

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Why cook pancakes in Kindergarten and PreK?

- learn new vocabulary and put it to use through engaging activities.
- nurture self-confidence, especially for those students who do not respond as effectively to typical language classes
- create an engaging learning environment with a tangible end product
- practice age-critical motor skills, like gripping the handle of the pan or flipping the pancake
- offer cultural insights which is a key element of the CLIL method

What is Pancake Day and why use it to teach language?

Pancake day, also called Shrove Tuesday, is the last day before the Easter Lent, akin to Tsiknopempti. People indulge in the foods they will refrain from in the following weeks, in this case eggs, butter, and milk.

Creating anything edible has a dual advantage:

- There is an end-product, thus students can experientially see the progression of the lesson and get the satisfaction of completion
- There are procedural descriptions similar to the progression of a storyline (step 1, 2, ...finally...) that promote narrative speech

Our groups

- Kindergarten classes 5yo
- PreK classes 4yo
- Nursery classes 2.5-3yo

Step 1 - The Ingredients & utensils

- Enunciation : present new vocabulary through flashcards
- Matching : match the flashcard to the real ingredient
- Use of the 5 senses : see, touch, smell the ingredients



Step 2 – Make the pancake

Emphasis on

- Measuring
- Following instructions



- Using action verbs
- Providing hands-on experience

Step 3 - Fry the pancake

Safety precautions

- Electricity
- Hot



* A chance for a musical recap

Take advantage of the time needed to fry the pancakes and use audiovisual aids to recap the ingredients and the recipe

Ingredients: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MnS3nym_x-c

Procedure: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CYkgEc1HDwA&t=40s>

Step 5 –Flipping the pancake

Focus on

- Correct posture and hand grip
- Prediction
- Problem solving



→ Competition

→ Fun



A real professional !



Step 5 – Eat the pancake

Toppings

- Present usual toppings
- Engage students in conversation

"I like ... / I don't like ..."

"... is healthy. / ... is unhealthy."

... and the moment we've all been waiting for ...



Let's Recap using the 5 Cs

- 1. Content : What's Pancake Day all about? - Cultural awareness
- 1. Communication: New vocabulary- Engage in meaningful conversation
- 1. Cognition: Hands-on activity applicable to multiple intelligences
- 1. Community: Developing social skills
- 1. Competence: Literacy, Mathematical and Social

Thank you!