

MEMO

To: Classroom Teams

From: Heidi Toursie

Date: October 19, 2012

RE: Harvest Celebrations

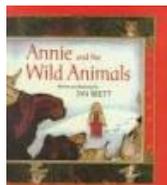


The leaves are falling. The air is getting cooler. It looks like it's about time to harvest.

For a Family Engagement initiative for the month of November, we are asking each classroom to hold a Harvest Celebration. Each classroom will conduct a nutrition/baking activity with the children and invite the parents in to share the snack. Attached you will find some pre-approved recipes from Sarah. If there is another recipe you would rather try, please forward it to Sarah for her approval. Please work with your Center Directors in scheduling your event so that we are careful to not overload the kitchen. Although the recipes are pre-approved, please complete a food/nutrition request to ensure that you have the appropriate ingredients.

Sites without kitchens have received griddles and may choose one of the pancake recipes. For some recipes, you could also use a crockpot. Let Sarah know what utensils you will need as well.

You can work this initiative around your theme. It fits perfectly with fall, harvest, farm etc. You can include a literacy component with books like *The Little Red Hen* or *Annie and the Wild Animals*. We have had classroom teams really play it up by decorating their classrooms and dressing up like farmers. We have had classroom teams ask parents to contribute favorite fall recipes from home and used parent volunteers to put together classroom recipe books. I will leave the creative details up to you. The consistent components are that **families are invited to participate and that the recipes used for the celebration go home as a Home School Connection.**



Let me know how I can support your efforts. Thanks for all of your positive energy around Family Engagement!

