

Purpose

A major problem with developing math skills is often the inability to relate them to “real life”. Pizza is both tasty, but can also be used to develop simple counting, addition, subtraction, and fraction skills in a fun and delicious manner.

Materials

Mini pizza crusts (English muffins can work, as well as small pita pockets, cut open)

Spaghetti sauce

Shredded mozzarella cheese

Additional ingredients as desired (such as precut pepperoni, diced onions or green peppers, etc)

Optional: “Funny Money”

Procedure

- 1) Count out how many mini pizzas you would like to make by counting out the number of crusts you lay out
- 2) Count out how many pizzas you would like to have sauce and spoon out the amount desired
- 3) Count out how many pizzas you would like to have cheese and sprinkle out the amount desired
- 4) Decide how many pizzas you would like to have particular toppings and count them out [i.e. 4 pepperonis on this one: 1, 2, 3, 4; 3 green peppers on the next one: 1, 2, 3]

5. Enjoy!

Additional ways to Add Math

To add fractions to the activity you can decide what fractional amount you would like to have a particular topping ($\frac{1}{2}$ cheese, $\frac{1}{2}$ cheese and pepperoni) as well as cutting the pizzas into fractions (this one will be cut into fourths, the other will be cut into thirds).

To add money to the activity you can assign a cost to each ingredient and give out a certain amount of “funny money” that can be used to buy the ingredients to have real life experience making purchases.

An additional layer on adding money to the activity is by making your own pizza business where you can assign a price for the ingredients you have to sell them for while also “buying” them at the above prices. This allows for further practice as well as an additional layer of value.