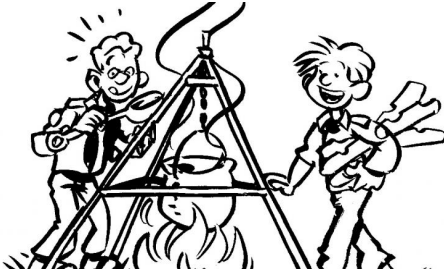


## Cooking with children for parents



To get to know the children's parents better, they can be invited to a meal. The meal is prepared with the children and the parents can only come at the arranged time, sit down and enjoy the cooked meal.

### Important!

- Inform the parents in good time about the date (already in the half/quarter program) and send out invitations at least one month in advance or bring them personally/invite them!
- Mandatory registration: In order to cook the right amount, it must be known how many people will be at the meal. Therefore, fix a registration deadline (about a week before the meal)!
- Prepare a meal that many children can help with and which is easy to prepare/cook!
- Enough kitchen material (knives, "cutting boards and scissors", etc.) at hand and always continue to wash up!
- Always explain everything to the children exactly and note that they are often not as fast as adults!

### Process (may vary)

1. Children are divided into groups - for example: appetizer, main course, dessert - possibly also: main course, side dishes, decorating action/tables/service.... etc.
2. Leaders of each group explain to the children what needs to be done and prepare and carry out the tasks with the children.
3. Breaks are important - already at the beginning inform the children about the break time and then keep it - all children will be happy!
4. Also give the children the opportunity to change groups.
5. Time management - well planned is half won! Making sure that every child is always busy and that everything is ready when parents arrive!
6. There needs to be a "welcoming committee" for parents so that they are aware of the leaders and feel comfortable right at the beginning!
7. Once parents, children and leaders - everyone - are seated, the main leader (or)/person in charge should introduce the whole leadership team so that parents know who they are entrusting their children to!
8. Thank the parents that they trust the leadership team! (Here, for example, a small gift can additionally be distributed to the parents.)
9. The individual leaders should "mingle" well with the parents, because the goal is that parents and leaders get to know each other better.
10. Start the meal with a prayer or song - this can also be prepared with the children.

11. Serve food or barrel street(s) with service/self-service.
12. During the meal, various "show blocks" can also enhance the occasion. These can be prepared with the children in advance (songs, theatre, games, ... etc.) or/and the leadership team can use this to announce information, show pictures/photos, give parents the opportunity to express themselves (for example: discuss a specific topic, general feedback round, questions/answers about the upcoming camp, ... etc.) and much more ...
13. Close the meal - thank parents for accepting the invitation and coming to the meal - say goodbye to the parents and children.
14. Clean up, wash up and clean up - feedback/evaluation in the leadership team!
15. Confess parents in writing a few days later - for example, with a thank you card and/or photos taken at the meal ... etc.

## Possible meals to prepare

- Various salads, meat/brisket from the grill or pan
- Soups with sausages and homemade bread
- Pizza - make your own dough and let kids top it
- Spagetthi with a variety of homemade sauces
- Dips with vegetable sticks, various sandwiches, hamburgers and hot dogs
- For dessert: homemade cookies, muffins, cakes decorated by the children, gingerbread(-häuser), chocolate fondue, chocolate bananas, fruit salad, ice cream, ... etc.

## More tips:

- [http://www.ferienlager-ideen.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=124&Itemid=214](http://www.ferienlager-ideen.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=124&Itemid=214)
- <http://www.grik.de/k520-Kochen-Backen.html>

## Image credits

- Title image: