

Pancake Day Lesson

1. Read and answer the questions.

We always eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday but do you know why? The Tuesday before Ash Wednesday is the start of the Christian period of Lent. It is a religious holiday. Christians believe Jesus spent forty days and forty nights in the desert before his crucifixion. He had no food and only a little water. This is why in the past, forty days before Easter, Christians ate everything they had in their pantries (store cupboards) like flour and eggs to make pancakes. Then, they didn't eat these luxury foods again until Easter Sunday. British people still follow this tradition of making pancakes on Shrove Tuesday.

- Do we eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday or on Ash Wednesday?
- Where did Jesus spend forty days and forty nights?
- Did Jesus have a lot of food in the desert?
- What did Christians use to make pancakes?
- Did they eat pancakes every day during Lent?
- Do modern Christians eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday?

2. What do you need to make pancakes? Match the words to pictures.

a.eggs

b.milk

c.whisk

d.jug



e.frying pan

f.flour

g.spatula

h.sunflower oil

3. Write the words from exercise 2 under the correct heading.

Equipment

whisk

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Ingredients

eggs

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

4. Read this recipe. Put the sentences in the right order. (1-6)

- a) Put some oil in the frying pan. _
- b) Add the milk and eggs. _
- c) Put the flour in the jug. _
- d) Cook the pancakes for one minute on each side. _
- e) Whisk the ingredients together. _
- f) Pour the pancake mixture into the frying pan. _

Teacher's Notes

1. Pancake Tuesday marks the beginning of Lent, the forty days before Easter. Traditionally people used up all the ingredients in their pantry (store cupboard) to make pancakes so that during the period of Lent they would not indulge in this food. Now, people are often encouraged to give up their favourite 'indulgence' during Lent such as chocolate, crisps or sweets.

- a. Shrove Tuesday
- b. In the desert
- c. No, he didn't
- d. Flour and eggs
- e. No, they didn't.
- f. Yes, they do.

2. If students are unfamiliar with some of the equipment then use flashcards before doing this activity so that they are then more confident.

3. Before this activity, write the following on the board and ask the students to match each definition to the correct word:

Food we use to make a recipe

equipment
ingredients

Tools we use to make a recipe

Food we use to make a recipe = ingredients

Tools we use to make a recipe = equipment

Then ask the students to write the words from exercise 1 in the correct column:

Equipment

whisk

1. jug

2. frying pan

3. spatula

Ingredients

eggs

4. milk

5. flour

6. sunflower oil

4. Open class discussion on how to make pancakes. Elicit the method for making them and then ask the students to work in pairs and put the sentences in the right order.

- a. Put some oil in the frying pan. 4
- b. Add the milk and eggs. 2
- c. Put the flour in the jug. 1
- d. Cook the pancakes for one minute on each side. 6
- e. Whisk the ingredients together. 3
- f. Pour the pancake mixture into the frying pan. 5