Teaching the Topic

Food is intrinsic to our culture, our comfort, our feeling of wellbeing, our sense of community. It is also central to the life of the person who cooks, serves and cleans up afterwards! It is a great topic of conversation for men as well as women, though, traditionally, women talk more about cooking. Most people are interested in food from other countries, especially now there are more ethnic food outlets in New Zealand.

Resources

Menus; recipe books; pictures of people eating in different situations; reports of community meals in community papers; food pages in the newspaper or magazines; TV advertorials in the ‘Food in a Minute’ style.

Activities

- Name different New Zealand foods – fruit and vegetables, grains, meat, baked goods.
- Identify food from labels.
- Talk about daily food routines – What do you eat for breakfast? Do you have a big meal in the middle of the day? Talk about likes and dislikes.
- Talk about typical meals – food, times of eating, mealtime situations (for example, who eats with who), dietary restrictions.
- Explain how to prepare a dish – ask and answer questions. Describe cooking processes and utensils – soak, rinse, slice, steam, stir, mix, serve with, steamer, bowl, ladle.

Language

- Food, cooking and eating equipment, preparation processes.
- Likes and dislikes.
- Tenses – Present tense for everyday activities, Used to; In Somalia, I used to eat…
- Comparisons – I prefer to eat vegetables cooked, My favorite fruit is…

Using the Worksheet

A possible introductory activity: Talk about favourite food, and/or the food the learner misses in New Zealand.

This activity has pictures and names of different food. The learner classifies the food according to how much they like it. The learner looks at the picture and reads the word, then decides how they feel about the food and writes the name of the food in the appropriate box. The tutor and the learner can talk about the food before the learner decides which box to put it in. The learner can put other food in the boxes.

Main learning points

Pronounce and write the names of common foods. Adverbs of frequency – sometimes, never, and words to show degree – quite like, don’t like very much.

What else could be learnt?

Other food words could be added.

The use of like and love in other contexts, and the grammar – I love the beach, I love swimming, I don’t like the wind very much, I quite like living in Newtown.

The use of other topics to show frequency or degree – I never wear trousers, I sometimes talk to my neighbour, I always eat rice for breakfast, I often write to my friend, I don’t speak English very often.
What do you like to eat?

Look at the pictures and classify them under the headings below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Love to eat</th>
<th>Quite like</th>
<th>Sometimes eat</th>
<th>Don’t like very much</th>
<th>Never eat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>carrots</td>
<td>chicken</td>
<td>lamb</td>
<td>cheese</td>
<td>noodles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fish</td>
<td>ice cream</td>
<td>beef</td>
<td>vegemite</td>
<td>pork</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Write more food that you know in the boxes.