

THE **EDIBLE**  
**SCHOOLYARD**  
PROJECT

## KITCHEN TOOL EXPLORATION

**Student Name:**

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**Summary:** What stories might a kitchen tool tell? In the [Kitchen Habits of Mind](#) lesson, you reflected on the importance of curiosity while cooking. This activity gives you a chance to look at your kitchen with curiosity and make some exciting discoveries about everyday kitchen objects!

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Materials:**

- A computer for research

**DO:** Look at the tools in your kitchen (bowls, knives, pots, pans, etc.) and see if anything stands out to you. Is there a tool you think looks interesting? Or a tool that you are curious about what it does? Do you think any of the tools have stories behind them or hold special meaning to someone in your family? Pull out one tool and set it aside.



## KITCHEN TOOL EXPLORATION

**READ:** Here are two examples of kitchen tools that are meaningful to one of our Edible Schoolyard staff. Read about the two tools that are important to her; a set of measuring spoons and a cheese slicer:



Image One



Image Two

Image One: *These measuring spoons are over 30 years old! I have had them since I was 5 years old. I remember they came attached to a cookbook for kids. The first thing I ever baked was sugar cookies using these measuring spoons.*

Image Two: *This cheese slicer belongs to my mother. It was the first thing her and my father bought together. Now, over 40 years later, my mother still says it's the best cheese slicer she's ever used.*

**DO:** Look at the kitchen tool you pulled out and ask yourself-- *Why does it stand out? Does it look old? Shiny?* Does it have a pattern on it? Is it something you use often or have you never seen it before? Does it have a story attached to you?



## KITCHEN TOOL EXPLORATION

**RESEARCH:** First, ask a family member about it. Where did they get it? What do they use it for? Is there a story behind the tool? Then, do some research online. See if you can find out the following facts:

- Where the tool was invented
- Common uses for the tool
- A fun fact about the tool

**DO:** Try using the tool in the kitchen! Here are some ideas:

- Help a family member use it while they cook a meal
- Find a recipe that requires that you use the tool and make it yourself
- See if you could make a midday snack using the tool.
  - If you are new to using it, ask a family member to help you.

**SHARE:** Take a picture of your tool and share a fun fact with your class! Your teacher will let you know how to share it with you classmates.

**INTERVIEW:** Ask your family member if they have a tool that is meaningful to them. You can come up with your own questions, but here are some starting questions you might ask:

- What is a tool from your kitchen that is important to you?
- What do you use the tool for?
- Why is the tool special to you?
- Do you have a story about this tool?
- How often do you use the tool?
- What is your favorite food to make with the tool?

### Teacher Notes:

- If you are teaching this activity as part of the curriculum [Cooking With Curiosity: Challenging Perfection With Reflection](#), see [Introduction to Unit One](#) of the curriculum guide.
- See [Sharing Toolkit for Teachers](#) to help determine how students will share and which platform they will use. Also see our student resource, [Sharing What You Made](#) to support students around creating voice memos, photo diaries, etc.