



### ENCHILADA CASSEROLE

Ingredient	Students Per Class		
	10	15	20
Enchilada sauce	1	1 1/2	2
tortillas 	10	15	20
bell pepper	1	1 1/2	2
corn, canned	1	1 1/2	2
black beans	1	1 1/2	2
mozzarella cheese	1 1/4 cup	2 cups	2 1/2 cups
 : Make sure it is PEANUT, NUT, and SESAME FREE			

#### PREP BEFORE CLASS:


Preheat the oven to 425°F. Wash bell peppers, remove stems and seeds. Drain and rinse the beans. Divide bell pepper, beans, corn, and cheese into 12 portions and put on individual plates.

#### Directions:

1. Distribute a plate of ingredients to each student and instruct them to dice bell peppers.
2. Pass out tortillas and have each student cut their tortilla into quarters. Pass muffin tins to each student.
3. Pass a bowl with enchilada sauce and have students add a teaspoon to their muffin tin.
4. Instruct students to place a tortilla quarter on top of the sauce, then add peppers, corn, beans, and cheese.
5. Pass around the enchilada sauce and have students scoop one spoon of sauce into their tin.
6. Have students place a second tortilla quarter and sprinkle cheese on top.
7. Collect individual cups on a tray and put in the oven for 12-15 mins. Watch the oven as cooking times may vary. Let cool and enjoy!



### GUACAMOLE

Ingredient	Students Per Class		
	10	15	20
Ripe avocados	3	4	5
Tomato	1	1 1/2	2
Lime	1	1 1/2	2
Cilantro, bunch	1	1 1/2	2
Ground cumin	3/4 tsp	1 tsp	1 1/2 tsp
Bag of tortilla chips	1/2	3/4	1
Other: Salt to taste.			
 : Make sure it is PEANUT, NUT, and SESAME FREE			

#### PREP BEFORE CLASS:

Wash fresh ingredients and cut tomato into wedges.

#### Directions:

1. Demonstrate how to cut an avocado in half, remove the pit, and scoop out the avocado into a mixing bowl. Have students assist with the remaining avocados.
2. Have students mash avocado with a fork.
3. Have some students dice a tomato and mince cilantro, and add to the avocado bowl.
4. Have students mix the guacamole.
5. Explain/demonstrate that rolling the lime loosens juice. Cut in half. Have students squeeze juice into a small bowl, then add it to the guacamole.
6. Add salt and cumin. Mix.
7. Serve with chips!

# LESSON 3:

## SALT, FAT, ACID, HEAT

### SHOPPING LIST

**Ingredient amounts will differ by class size; see individual recipes for exact quantities.**

#### Ingredients to buy:

##### Produce

- Ripe avocados
- Tomato
- Lime
- Cilantro
- Bell pepper

##### Dairy

- Mozzarella cheese

##### Pantry Staples

- Canned corn
- Canned black beans
- Enchilada sauce
- Ground cumin
- Corn tortillas (NUT & SESAME FREE)
- Tortilla chips (NUT & SESAME FREE)

#### Ingredients in the bin:

- Salt

### OBJECTIVES

- ☒ Name 4 main elements of cooking according to Samin
- ☒ Explain the meaning of the 4 elements
- ☒ Name one benefit of eating avocados



### ROLES OF SALT, FAT, ACID, HEAT IN COOKING

- Salt – enhances flavor
- Fat – delivers flavor and generates texture
- Acid – balances flavor
- Heat – ultimately determines the texture of food


### STAR INGREDIENT:

#### AVODACO



- Avocado is a fruit produced by the avocado tree.
- Avocados are in the same family as cinnamon. Seriously!
- Avocados contain an abundance of nutrients that are essential for optimal health, and regularly consuming avocados could help improve overall diet quality.
- Avocados are rich in many nutrients, including fiber, healthy fats, vitamin C, vitamin E, vitamin B6, potassium, magnesium, and folate.

### INTRODUCTION

 3–5 min

- Complete Start of Class Checklist (see beginning of the curriculum): arrive early, set up for the class, take attendance, review allergies.
- What is your favorite fast food restaurant and why? Discuss.
- What would happen if you ate at your favorite fast food location for every meal? Discuss.
- Why do we call them fast food restaurants? Discuss the fact that foods here are highly processed – they are made with extra ingredients that are not very healthy, so that they can be made and cooked very quickly.
- An American chef named Samin Nosrat wrote a book 5 years ago that discussed a new idea in cooking. Her book was called Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat. She also made a documentary about this idea. She wanted to teach people how to appreciate good food made with good ingredients.
- Samin believes that the most delicious dishes are made with these four elements – Salt, Fat, Acid, and Heat. Let's see if our two recipes for today include these four elements!

### ENGAGEMENT TIPS



With Middle School students, it is important to create an environment where they are able to demonstrate agency. For example, rather than reading the recipe to students, have them read the steps.



Always introduce (or reintroduce!) the bear claw technique and monitor students as they dice the bell peppers.



Have students help with washing and drying dishes, cleaning tables and surfaces, picking up food scraps, packing up extra ingredients, etc.

# LESSON 3:

## SALT, FAT, ACID, HEAT

### DEVELOPMENT

⌚ 5-7 min

- Start with the recipe Enchilada Casserole, and continue the discussion on Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat. See sidebar.
- Discuss each element and what it means – students should be familiar with heat and salt and possibly fat, but discuss “good fats” – do not use avocados as an example just yet. Acids will likely need to be discussed as well.
  - Fats – an oily substance contained in certain foods. Unlike water, fats won't evaporate when heated, though they do melt. Thus, fats are often used for baking, frying, and cooking in general. Examples: ghee, butter, olive oil. Not all, but many fats (as long as they are not too processed) are really good for you, like olive oil, fish fat in salmon, ghee, butter, and more.
  - Acid substances taste sour. Acids can work as tenderizers by breaking down fibers in foods that are cooked or marinated in them. As it tenderizes, it also penetrates and flavors the food. Examples: vinegar, citrus, wine, and buttermilk.
- Facilitate the discussion on which ingredients used in today's recipes belong to which category (hint: not all would). Ask them to try to place at least 1-2 ingredients or methods from the day's recipes in each category.
- Come together to discuss and help them to recognize the big elements for today – acid used in the guacamole, avocados being a great example of a healthy fat, heat used to make the quesadillas, etc.

### CONCLUSION

⌚ 2-3 min

- When Samin wrote her book and created her documentary, she said she didn't want to just cook for people; she wanted to teach them how important it was to use pure and healthy ingredients to create their own healthy foods at home.
- What are some benefits of cooking meals like we did today at home instead of going to a fast-food restaurant? Discuss (make sure to stress that these meals are healthier, ingredients taste better when fresh, spending time at home with family, cooking together as a family, etc.).
- If time allows at the end, with your small group, create a quick lunch or breakfast recipe that hits all of the four elements Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat.



### END OF CLASS CHECKLIST

⌚ 10 min

- Follow End of Class Checklist (see beginning of the curriculum) and complete Taste Test, Thumbs Up Test, Clean Up & Dismissal