



# What's For Dinner?

By Lynn Salem and Josie Stewart

12 pages/115 words



## Synopsis

In this repetitive story, each family member adds salt to the stew while preparing dinner. Readers can predict what's for dinner.

## Before the First Page

Read *Who Put the Pepper in the Pot?* by Joanna Cole.

- Give each child a paper plate to draw two foods from a favorite meal. Share the results. Reinforce the language found in *What's for Dinner?* during the discussion.
- Provide each child with a flat box filled with salt. Ask students to write their known words in salt, then “erase” them by shaking the box. Encourage the children to say “**Shake, shake, shake.**” as they erase.

## Set-Up for Success

*Independent Reading* – Students may need support with **stirred** and the phrase **Guess what he added?**, page 8.

*Guided Reading* – Review the suggestions for *Independent Reading*. Include support for **you'll, added**, page 2; **tasted**, page 9.

## Learning about Print

- Punctuation marks – period, comma, question mark, quotation marks, exclamation point.
- Multiple lines of text.
- Directionality on unusual page layouts.
- Capitalization of **I** as a pronoun.

## Key Words and Phrases

What's for dinner? Shake, shake, shake.  
Stew, but you'll have to help. added salt

## Learning about Words

*The vocabulary in this book provides opportunities to introduce, practice or enrich the following:*

- Contractions – **What's, you'll.**
- Digraphs – **shake, who, what's.**
- Blends – **stew, stirred.**
- Word endings – **added.**
- Nouns and pronouns – **dad, brother/he** and **mom, sister/she.**

## Assessment Opportunities

*The following problem-solving behaviors can be observed and recorded:*

- Using pictures as a source of information.
- Using blends, digraphs and word segments to solve an unfamiliar word.
- Reading high frequency words: **my, the, said, but, to.**
- Reading some repeated phrases with fluency.
- Retelling the story or relating the story to a personal experience.

## After the Last Page

- Act out the story.
- Write a recipe for stew.
- Rewrite the book preparing pizza for dinner. Add different toppings.
- \* Write a description for making pizza. Sequence the order of toppings.
- Assemble a cookbook of favorite recipes and give the book to someone as a gift.

- Write a grocery list of the items needed for making stew.

## Throughout the Day

### Math

- Cut paper “pizzas” into halves, quarters and eighths. Compare sizes of slices.
- Use various containers to compare liquid measurements.
- Tally the results of a vote on favorite pizza places in the community.
- Cooking – Prepare stew for a class luncheon.
- Patterning – Use borders found in the book as a model to create a design.
- Sequence what goes in the cooking pot (or on the pizza) by using ordinal numbers.



### Problem-Solving

- Create an assembly line to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. Each child assumes the responsibility for one step in the process.
- Estimate how much salt would be added if all classmates “shake, shake, shake.” Weigh the results of the students’ shaking.

### Social Studies

- Play telephone games. Pass a message from one to another.
- Discuss job responsibilities at home in preparation for dinner. Example: setting the table, preparing food, serving food, doing dishes.

- Discuss teamwork and chores at home.

### Science

- Experiment with water displacement. Add objects to observe the changes in the water level.
- \* Conduct experiments with salt. Does heat change salt? What does salt do to ice? Record findings.

### Health

- Study the food groups.
- \* Create a healthy menu for a family dinner including all the food groups.
- Write a menu for “The Pizza Place.” Include “meat lovers,” “veggie delight,” “cheese please.”
- Make healthy snacks.

## The Home Connection

- Write a grocery list for a meal.
- Help plan a daily or weekly menu.
- Help cook a meal.
- Set the dinner table.

### \* Show What You Know – a document to keep

Activities marked with an asterisk (\*) are appropriate for assessment.

## Read on...

Cole, Joanna. *Who Put the Pepper in the Pot?*

Croll, Carolyn. *Too Many Babas.*

DePaola, Tomie. *Strega Nona.*

Ehlert, Lois. *Growing Vegetable Soup.*

Galdone, Paul. *The Magic Porridge Pot.*

Hollander, Sheila. *Sammy’s Supper.*

Kovalski, Maryann. *Pizza for Breakfast.*

*Stone Soup.* Adapted by Anne McGovern.

*The Lady with the Alligator Purse.* Adapted by Nadine Westcott.

Tomcheck, Ann. *I Can Be a Chef.*