

Kids in the kitchen

Is this something you would consider doing with your kids or do you feel that they should just stay away?



Coming up next...

In the May issue

MOTHER'S DAY

What does it mean to you?

(Send in by 5 April)

In the June issue

FATHERS KNOW BEST

Parenting has always been a mother's duty? But as the child gets older, they do tend to gravitate to the father at a certain age and for certain matters... and do boys look for their fathers more than their mothers?

(Send in by 25 April)

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COOKING UP A STORM

I love to cook, so naturally, I cook all our meals and we very rarely eat out. I even bake the birthday cakes for my husband and daughters. With the constant exposure to seeing me in the kitchen, my twin daughters too enjoy cooking.

They started helping me in the kitchen when they were about four years old - cracking and whipping the eggs, and then progressed to whipping batter for cake. When they turned six, they ventured into the kitchen more seriously - slicing ham, and other ingredients.

Now, they can both bake independently and they do it every weekend... trying out new recipes or trying out something they had tasted.

I'm glad because it's keeping them away from the computers and the television.

- **Siew Li**

PLAYING MASAK-MASAK

My son who is eight grew up in a household where everyone simply loved to cook. His toddler years were seen playing 'masak-masak' with pots and pans and in the kitchen nonetheless. Of course, he also has his fair share of playing ball, running around, watching television and playing geeky computer games! Cooking and baking remains one of his favourite pastimes, as he loves to eat! Although not old enough to start venturing in the kitchen on his own, he sure can make a mean kitchen assistant!

- **Suleen Sha**

SIMPLE DISHES KIDS CAN COOK

Sandwiches

Eggs - omelettes, hard-boiled, etc

Rice

Instant Noodles

Salad

Pasta

A Life Skill

I have two sons, aged 14 and 10 years old. I have always encouraged them to help out in the kitchen since they were nine. True, they tend to mess up more than help out but isn't that what learning is all about?

My elder son has learnt how to slice luncheon meat, make an omelette, cook instant noodles and, of course, rice during his primary school days. There were occasions when he fried the omelettes as one of the dishes for our dinner. And they were tasty.

Now that he is in secondary school, he has no problem in cutting, cooking and baking during the Home Economics lesson. He even scored a distinction in that subject!

I believe that cooking is a life skill that should be taught to children at a young age. If they enjoy doing it, then it can no longer be seen as a chore.

Patricia Wee



Best Letter

