

Tween Summer Program: Cupcake Wars

Tweens will decorate two cupcakes, one based on a theme, one however they want. They would then be judged as a pair for prizes.

Time: 1 ½ hours

Number of participants: 16 in grades 5-7

Pre-program supplies & prep:

- 2-boxes basic cake mix (Betty Crocker, Dunkin Hines, ect as well as the eggs and oil required per box directions
- Cupcake liners

I baked two boxes of basic cake mix for a total of 36 cupcakes (the packages said each box made 24 cupcakes...even filling the cupcake tins with a very light hand, I only got 18 cupcakes per box).

I made 36 cupcakes for 15 registered kids, figuring 2 apiece, plus some extras for ones who "forgot" to register.

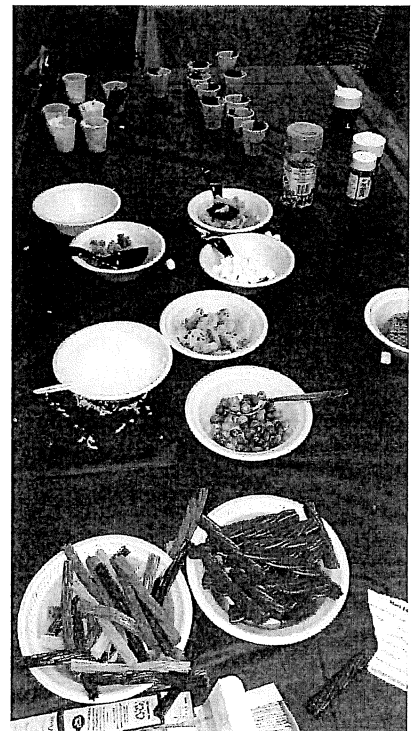
The cupcakes are MUCH cheaper to make yourself (\$1-\$1.50 per box mix, plus \$3.00 for dozen eggs versus about \$5 per 6 pack at the grocery store). However, if time/allergies/ect is an issue and you have to use the grocery store, be sure to order ahead, and be aware that they often arrive in store with the frosting already done.

Supplies for day of program:

Plastic disposable tablecloths for each table

Set up on one main table:

- 4 tubs of frosting pre-scooped into small plastic dixie cups (1 strawberry, 2 vanilla, 1 chocolate containers bought, about 2 generous Tablespoons scooped into each cup, with one cup per cupcake)
- 1 bag of pretzel squares
- 1 bag mini marshmallows
- 1 bag skittles
- 1 bag Twizzlers in fun colors (pre-cut into thirds to make sure there were enough)
- 1 bag Twizzler pull & peel (pre-cut into thirds to make sure there were enough)
- a variety of sprinkles and colored sugars
- 1 box of mini chocolate chip cookies
- 2 packs gummy life savers
- 2 pack gummy bears
- 2 packs gummy sharks
- shredded coconut
- food coloring



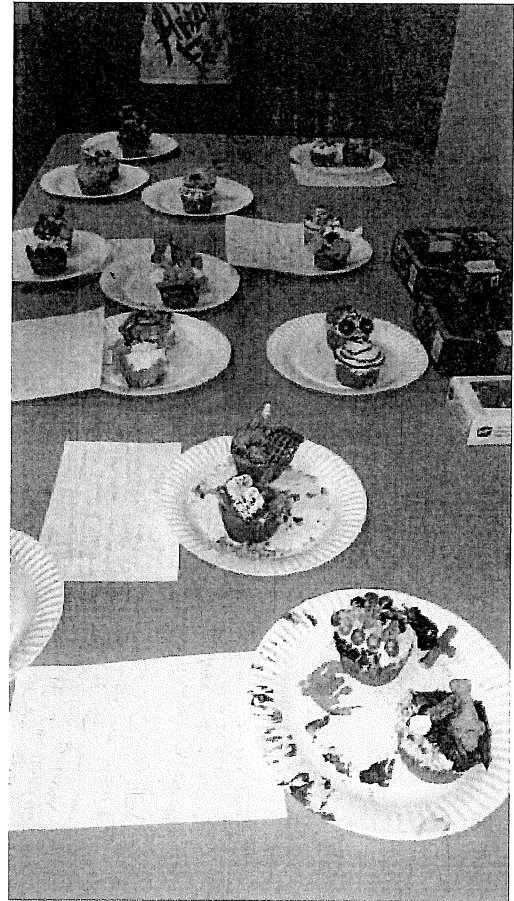
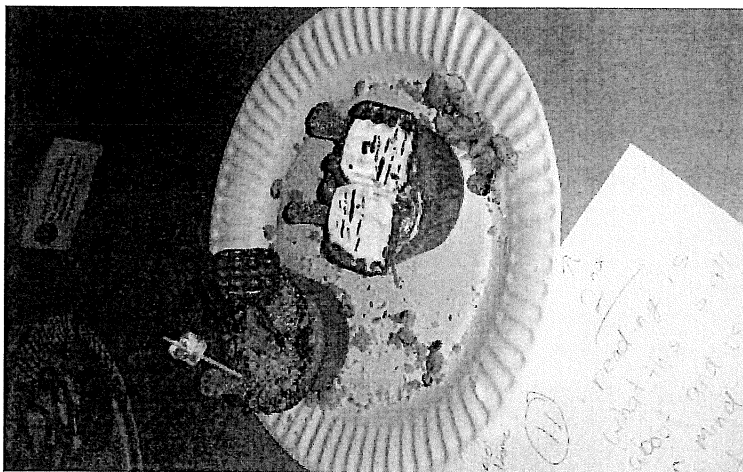
Judging:

Each pair of cupcakes was put on a numbered paper plate to ensure anonymity.

Two other librarians were willing to judge the finished cupcakes and choose the overall winner, plus 3 runners up.

Things I would change:

- I would control the food coloring, or have another adult (or older teen volunteer) to do it at a station that tweens could bring their frosting up to. I let them just use it and it was a bit...messy. A slightly older group probably would have been fine with it.
- They requested that chocolate sprinkles and gel type writing frosting tubes were available next time.
- Chocolate frosting didn't go nearly as fast as the others, however I had only 1/3 tub of frosting total left, so 4 tubs was a really good guess on how much to buy for 36 cupcakes.
- Have an activity prepared away from the judging (just across the room) for them to do during judging.
- Possibly make the program a little shorter, maybe just 1 hour 15 minutes while cutting decorating time down to 20-25 minutes.



DIY Flip Flops

Materials – flip flops in a variety of sizes (\$3 each at Old Navy)

Washable ribbon

Fabric that can be torn into strips

Sissors

Glue gun

Show some pictures

“Let ‘em loose”



Food Wars

Provide tools – bowls, microwave, cutting board & knives, napkins, tin foil etc.

2 stations:

Sweet – Bananas, apples, chocolate, candies and secret ingredient – ritz crackers

Savory – Lunch meat, crackers, cheese, pickles and secret ingredient – apples

Reveal secret ingredient after they choose stations

Librarian(s) taste and judge

You can have multiple categories:

Taste

Presentation

Replicate – ability

Etc.



Brownie in a Mug

Some mugs don't microwave well because there is metal in their ceramic glaze. They'll work but they may get very hot. Best to use a plain old everyday un-fancy mug.

- Prep time: 3 minutes
- Cook time: 2 minutes
- Yield: Makes one serving

8 KIDS ATTENDED

INGREDIENTS

- 1/4 cup flour (30 g)
- 1/4 cup sugar (50 g)
- 2 Tbsp (13 g) cocoa (natural, unsweetened)
- Pinch of salt
- Tiny pinch of cinnamon
- 1/4 cup water (60 ml)
- 2 Tbsp canola oil or vegetable oil (NOT extra virgin olive oil, it's too strongly flavored)
- 1 to 2 drops vanilla extract
- 1 small scoop of ice cream or 1 or 2 teaspoons heavy whipping cream to serve

METHOD

- 1 Place flour, sugar, cocoa, salt, and cinnamon in a microwave safe ceramic mug. Stir with a fork or spoon to mix well and break up any clumps.
- 2 Add the oil, water, and vanilla to the cup and stir until the mixture is smooth and there are no lumps.
- 3 Place in microwave and heat on high until the mixture is cooked through, about a 1 minute and 40 seconds for a 1000 watt microwave. You may have to experiment and adjust the time for less or more powerful microwaves. If you don't know the power level on your microwave, start with 60 seconds and increase until the brownie is done. It should still be moist when cooked through, not dry.
- 4 Let cool for a minute and serve with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or a teaspoon or two of whipping cream poured over.

from Simply Recipes ~ http://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/brownie_in_a_mug/

* TIP. TAKE MUGS HOME TO WASH IN DISHWASHER

Teen Cook and Craft Program:

- Born out of an idea to cook, but a need to occupy time used for baking.
- Implemented in January, regularly get about 10 participants.
- Can be complicated if there's no access to a stove.

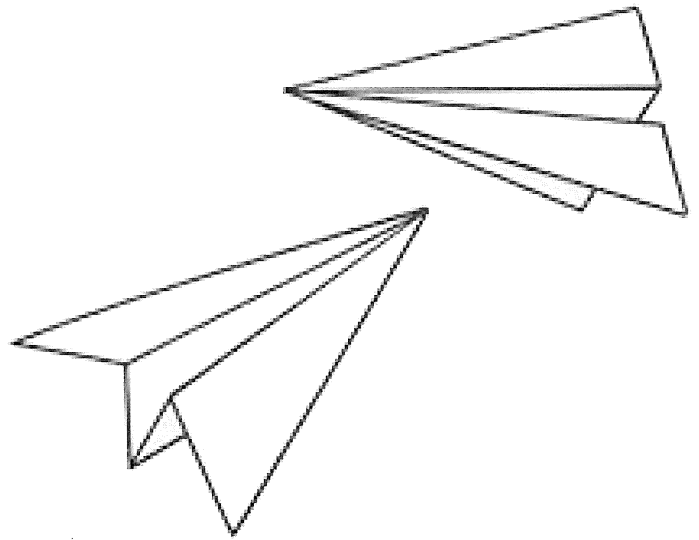
Different iterations:

- January-pizza rolls and paper airplanes
- February-catapults and chex mix
- March-relaxing and rock painting
- April-spring rolls and recycling
- May-sharpie art and quesadillas
- June- salsa and string dolls

The cost of these programs are pretty minimal, maybe \$10-\$20. For the craft, I generally re-use supplies we have around. For the cooking, it's generally vegetarian and I do allergen reminders before just in case. I ask the teen things they'd like to learn to cook or do (keeping it within reason and as simple as possible) and so far it's worked well. These are easy, affordable snacks to recreate at home with a microwave if necessary.

Presenting

Teens: Cook and Craft



This week we will make pizza rolls and craft paper airplanes! Join the fun on the third floor.

Wednesday, January 27th
4 P.M.

Event intended for those in grades 6-12

Summer Programs: Minute to Win It Games

Cookie Monster

Have everyone place a cookie on their forehead. Give everyone one minute to get the cookie from their forehead to their mouth without using their hands.

Large cookies

Loop de Loop

See who can thread the most fruit loops onto a pipe cleaner only using one hand.

Froot Loops cereal and pipe cleaners

Defy Gravity

Give each player two balloons. Have the players try to keep both balloons in the air for 1 minute. To make this even more difficult, have each player use only one hand to keep the balloons in the air.

Balloons

Use Your Noodle

Place six uncooked pieces of penne pasta near the edge of a table. Give the player an uncooked spaghetti noodle to hold in his/her mouth and use to try and pick up the penne noodles. This is much harder than it sounds!

penne pasta and spaghetti noodles

Pick-up Sticks

Use chopsticks to move conversation hearts from one bowl to another. You can also do this with mini marshmallows!

Chopsticks and M&Ms or small marshmallows

Light as a Feather

Give each player a feather and have them blow on it to keep it in the air for 1 minute. The feather must be kept in the air at all times and no body parts may be used to help the feather.

Feathers

Bean a While

Place a small amount of beans on a table and give each person a straw. Place a bowl on a table about ten feet away. Give the contestant one minute to suck a bean onto the straw and run it to the other bowl. Whoever can do the most in a minute wins!

Dried beans, straws, bowl

Sugar High

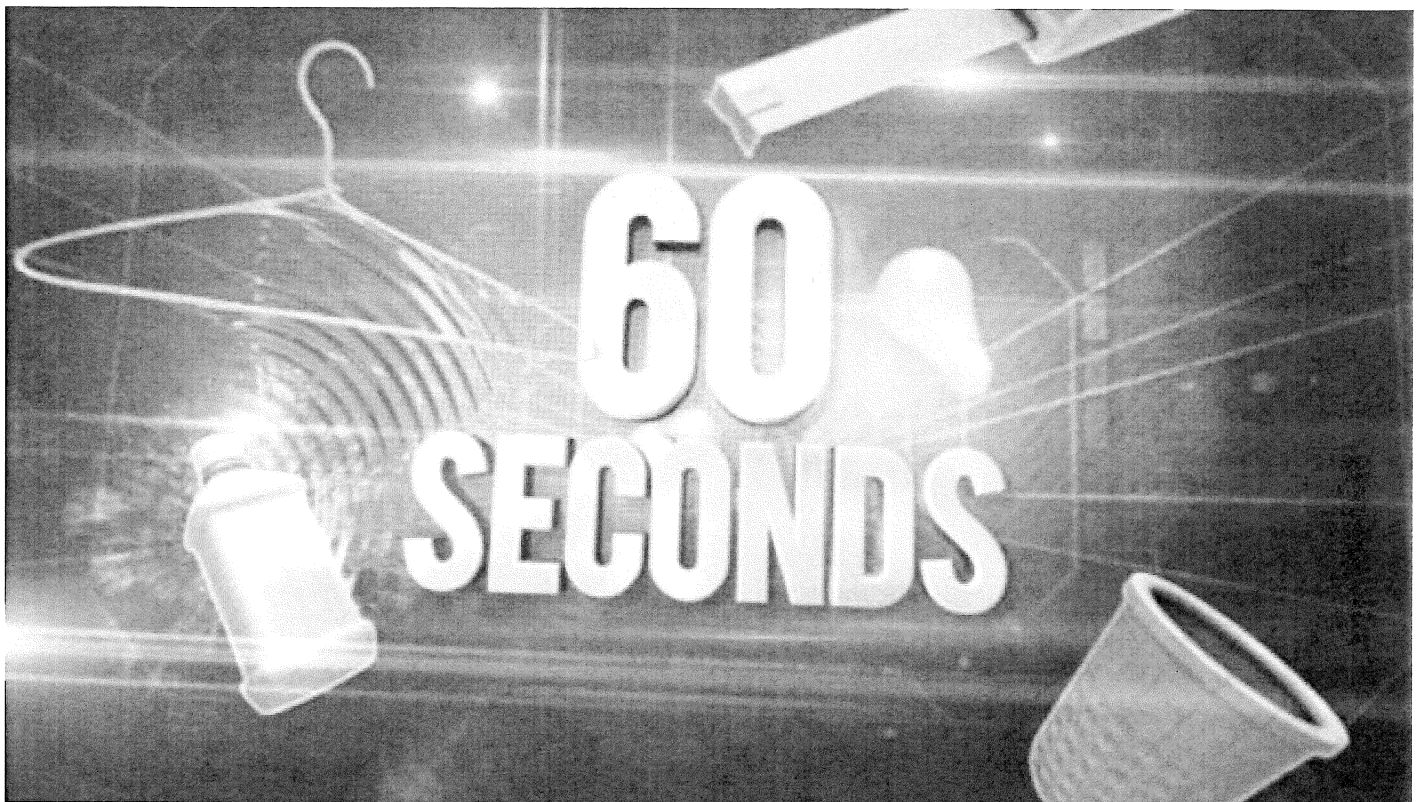
Challenge: To balance 12 sugar cubes on a Popsicle stick held in your mouth for 3 seconds, before the 60 second timer goes off.

Supplies needed: a box of sugar cubes, a bowl, lots of Popsicle sticks, a timer and a small table.

1. Put 12 sugar cubes in a bowl on a small table.

PRESENTING...TEEN GAMES

MINUTE TO WIN IT



Ever wanted to play minute to win it? Now's your chance! We'll have several different challenges that you will only have 60 seconds to complete...who will be victorious?! Find out on June 30!

June 30 @ 2P.M.

Third Floor

Registration Required

This program is intended for grades 6-12