Talking and Writing in the Kitchen

Dinner Table Talk

Engage in extended conversations at the dinner table. After you ask your child a question, follow up with more questions to encourage your child to provide details. Examples:

- What was your favorite part of school today? Why?
- What was difficult for you today at school? How did you handle it?
- What are you thankful for today? Why?
- What would you love to invent?
- Which superhero power would you like to have? How would you use it?

RECIPE

Cooking Conversations

- Show your child the recipe and explain that the ingredients are always listed first. What you do with the ingredients is described in the order in which you need to do them.
- Talk about what you are making using cooking terms (for example, one-half cup, two teaspoons) and explain what you are doing while you do it.
- Describe how you measure ingredients using measuring cups and spoons.
- Actively involve your child in each step of the recipe.
- Your child will have many questions. Answer them in complete sentences and provide details.

Writing in the Kitchen

- Make a **grocery list**. Plan meals together for the next week and write down what you will need from the grocery store to make them.
- Make to-do lists for errands you need to run or chores you do around the house.
- Make **labels** for food containers.
- Create a **list of important phone numbers** and put them on the refrigerator.
- **Draw and write** birthday cards, invitations, thank you notes, and "just because" notes to neighbors, friends, and loved ones.
- Write recipes of your own!