Let's Eat!

Bee-bim Bop!

- Written by Linda Sue Park
- Illustrated by Ho Baek Lee
- Clarion Books, 2008

In this rhythmic rhyming text, a child helps her mother make bee-bim bop, a traditional Korean dish. Mother and daughter shop, prepare ingredients, set the table, and sit down with the whole family to enjoy a favorite meal. This book helps children learn about kitchen tools, preparing meals and how cooking transforms ingredients. It also spotlights how acting kindly is one way to we can take care of each other.

Vocabulary

· chop: to cut quickly

Grandma's Tiny House

- Written by JaNay Brown-Wood
- Illustrated by Priscilla Burris
- Charlesbridge, 2017

Get ready for a feast! In this counting book, numerous guests gather at Grandma's little home, each bringing scrumptious foods to share. But the tiny house can't accommodate all the guests. So they decide to solve the problem by taking the party outside! As children count along with this festive tale, they notice how all the guests take care of each other to make their celebration a success.

Vocabulary

- feast: celebration with food
- scrumptious: delicious, really yummy

Up, Down, and Around

- Written by Katherine Ayres
- Illustrated by Nadine Bernard Westcott
- Candlewick Press, 2008

This playful rhyming text encourages physical movement as it teaches about plants that grow up, down, and around. Two children tend a lush garden with the help of an adult, observing the growth of corn, peppers, and broccoli reaching to the sky, and carrots, beets, and onions burrowing below. Children practice recognizing spatial language and following verbal directions as they read this book that ends in a bountiful, homegrown feast.

Vocabulary

• wind: to twist around something

10 Gulab Jamuns: Counting with an Indian Sweet Treat

- Written by Sandhya Acharya
- Illustrated by Vanessa Alexandre
- Mascot Books, 2017

Idu and Adu cannot help snacking on the 10 delicious gulab jamuns their mother has made for a dinner party. As they eat, they count the number of sweet treats remaining in the bowl until there are only four. When Mamma finds out, she divides the rest among Idu, Adu, Mamma, and Daddy, and the boys offer to help her make more. This book guides children toward an understanding of sharing, counting, taking responsibility, and the rewards of cooking with family.

Vocabulary

- · divide: to break up into parts or pieces
- · guests: people invited to an event

Rainbow Stew

- Written and illustrated by Cathryn Falwell
- Lee & Low Books, 2019

A rainy day calls for homemade stew! Grandpa invites his eager grandchildren outside to his colorful vegetable garden. In the rain, they help each other pick vegetables in every color of the rainbow! The family members take care of each other as they cook and eat their special rainbow meal. This sweet rhyming book offers children a glimpse into the joy of growing their own food to cook and enjoy with loved ones!

Vocabulary

• heaping: very full, as much as can fit

The Enormous Potato

- Written by Aubrey Davis
- Illustrated by Dusan Petricic
- Kids Can Press, 1999

In this retelling of a classic folktale, a farmer pulls with all his might to extract a giant potato from the ground. With the help of his wife, daughter, and a few animals too, the potato is finally ripped from the ground, and a delicious meal is made for the whole town. This book about perseverance and working together expands children's knowledge of the folktale genre. It allows them to practice identifying the problem and solution and retelling stories sequentially.

Vocabulary

• enormous: really big; huge

BLUEPRINT

Kitchen Dance

- Written and illustrated by Maurie J. Manning
- Clarion Books, 2008

After bedtime, a young girl and her brother sneak to the kitchen to see their parents dancing and singing as they clean the dinner dishes. The mother and father spin, twirl, twist, and tap as pans, sponges, and towels clang, wipe, and snap. A text full of onomatopoeia introduces children to sound words, while Spanish endearments help expand their multilingual vocabulary. This book about how cleaning up in the kitchen can be fun encourages children to make connections to their own family and ways that we can take care of each other.

Vocabulary

• glide: to move smoothly and often quietly

Anywhere Farm

- Written by Phyllis Root
- Illustrated by G. Brian Karas
- Candlewick Press, 2017

This rhyming book shows readers that — with some sun, water, soil, and a seed

 a plant can grow anywhere. As children investigate seeds and their life cycles, readalouds of this book inspire them to grow their own food and consider how an anywhere farm can benefit a whole community of living things.

Vocabulary

· tenderly: carefully; gently

The Turnip

- Written and illustrated by Jan Brett
- G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2015

In her signature style of intricate, detailed illustrations, Jan Brett offers a retelling of *The Giant Turni*p featuring a family of badgers and various animals in their community. As children read along with this new version of a familiar folktale, they make predictions about what will happen. They compare the two versions of the story and examine how illustrations can tell us new things about a book.

Vocabulary

• tug: pull

*The children's books suggested here are readily available through Children's Literacy Initiative, most school or public libraries, or your local school equipment supplier.