Instructions
and 6 sample templates
for
BAKE A NEW JERSEY CAKE

BAKE A NEW JERSEY CAKE
PACKAGE CONTENTS

• DIRECTIONS (LET’S BAKE A NEW JERSEY CAKE)
• LETTER TO PARENTS (Explains project and gives directions for baking one part of the cake, as you are requesting their child to do. Blanks are provided for student’s name, date of project, county assigned, and any other contribution volunteered by student.)
• CHECK LIST FOR NEW JERSEY CAKE (Tasks to have completed and items to have on hand)
• COUNTY/COLOR OUTLINE MAP FOR NEW JERSEY CAKE (Outline of New Jersey, with counties, to specify color to make each county on day of assembly)
• THANK YOU NOTE TO PARENTS (Outline of New Jersey with Duffy exclaiming, “We couldn’t have done it without you!”)
• 25 county templates (Four largest counties are divided in half.)
• 25 desk-sized New Jersey Outline Maps
• Wall-sized New Jersey Outline Map
**LET'S BAKE A NEW JERSEY CAKE**

**MRS. KIEVET’S BAKE-A-NEW-JERSEY-CAKE PLAN**

**IN PREPARATION FOR THE BIG DAY:**

- **STUDY NEW JERSEY** with *You, New Jersey and the World*.
- **DISCUSS** New Jersey’s important places and products.
- **BRAINSTORM** for what could be used to represent places and products. (Children know what is available in the candy aisle.)
- **ASSIGN STUDENT VOLUNTEERS** to bring in suggested decorations.
- **PREPARE STUDENTS FOR BAKING CAKE-COUNTIES.** They’ll each need a template of a county and a letter explaining the project to their parents. (Enclosed in package — you need only copy and fill in the blanks.)
- **ARRANGE FOR FROSTING.** Ask for parents to prepare homemade or assign students to bring in cans. You will need about 4 qts. or enough to frost 10 layer cakes.
- **Arrange to have adults (four parents, if possible) help assemble cake.**
- **PREPARE A TABLE** for the cake. Construct a guide for proper placement of each cake-county. Arrange copied & cut-out county templates on a piece of 2’ X 4’ cardboard allowing spaces between the counties; laminate or cover with plastic wrap.
- **PREPARE COUNTY/COLOR MAPS.** Before copying outline maps, fill in color for each county, as you or you and your class decide.

**CAKE-ASSEMBLY DAY:**

- **STUDENTS FROST THEIR COUNTY.** Provide each student with a container for coloring frosting, something for stirring and a map denoting color for each county.
- **Remember to frost the sides bordering the Atlantic Ocean and Delaware River before putting the counties in place.**
- **ASSEMBLE** the cake as you would a puzzle. Be prepared to cut cakes or add icing for counties to fit into place.
- **SMOOTH** over all joints with excess frosting. (Moms are great at this!) **DECORATE** with goodies the children bring. Each child places his/her contribution.
- **INVITE OTHER CLASSES** to see the finished product. Third graders will have something to look forward to next year.
- **SERVE** the class all they can eat. The enormous amount of leftovers can be sent to the principal, secretaries, the third grade, etc.

**ENJOY!**

**TAKE PICTURES!**

- **THANK parents.** Your students’ parents will appreciate the thank you note you write inside the outline of New Jersey — complete with Duffy!

**BRAINSTORM FOR DECORATIONS**

Decorating your New Jersey cake is, of course, the most important part of the project. There will be much student participation in this planning! Likely, your students will not even realize that they’re reviewing social studies. First, gather suggestions, on what your class wants to portray about their state. Magic Carpets, Geography, Agriculture and Industry lend themselves readily to this activity; marking former Indian sites, dinosaur fossil finds, and Revolutionary War sites are other possibilities. Use the large wall map for you and a desk map for each student. Once you have a rough idea (a sketch is best), you can start accepting decorating ideas. Each student can be responsible for what he or she suggests; anything edible will do.

**Suggested decorations:** colored sugar, cookie/cake/baking decs., chocolate bits, cookies, wafers, crackers (e.g., fish) candy (e.g., “gummies” including dinosaurs, fish, bears, fruits), real vegetables & fruit (especially blueberries). You may wish to identify each county — paper triangles stapled to a straw is effective.

The finished product will, admittedly, be greatly influenced by the children’s tastes in candy, but it will be remembered. Who could forget chocolate kiss Kittatinnies … a Pine Barrens comprised of spearmint leaves atop toothpicks … the location of the cake-county one personally baked? Each class will create a unique and memorable cake. A New Jersey cake is an ideal way to culminate your New Jersey study!
Dear ____________________________.

Your child will be participating in a unique, exciting project on ____________________________. We will be assembling a four foot New Jersey cake! Each student’s contribution is important to the successful completion of our cake. Your child has volunteered to bring

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

He or she has also been asked to bring in a cake in the shape of ________________ County. Here is how you can help accomplish this:

  • At least several days before our project, help your child bake a 9" layer cake (half of an average cake mix) and freeze it.
  • The night before our project, place template of the county (should arrive with this letter) on top of the frozen cake and cut cake to shape.
  • Wrap carefully for safe transit to school.
  • Remind your child to also bring in the decorations he or she volunteered.

We all appreciate your help. I’m sure you’ll hear all about our day!
CHECK LIST FOR NEW JERSEY CAKE

TASKS TO HAVE COMPLETED & ITEMS TO HAVE ON HAND

___ Cake decoration planned
    ____ Large wall map
    ____ Desk outline map for each student

___ Each student prepared
    ____ County template
    ____ Letter to parents (also specifying volunteered decoration)

___ Assistants acquired

___ Frosting (about 4 quarts or enough to frost 10 layer cakes)

___ Cake platter (templates arranged on cardboard - see cake plan)

___ Frosting preparations for each student
    ____ outline map denoting color of each county
    ____ container
    ____ stirrer
    ____ food coloring

___ An extra cake or two, just in case

___ Spatulas
___ Spoons
___ Paper towels (some wet if you don’t have easy access to a sink)
___ Paper plates
___ Plastic forks
___ Napkins
___ Paper cups
___ Juice
___ Packaging for leftover cake
County/Color
New Jersey
Outline Map

Add food coloring to icing and make your county the color indicated.
“Thank you — we couldn’t have done it without you!”
Essex
Sussex