

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Creative Cooking

By Ruth Donnelly

I like to make up recipes.  
I do it every day.  
I'd rather cook creatively  
Than watch TV—or play!

Mom lets me use the kitchen, if  
I clean up when I'm through.  
(She didn't like it when I spilled  
The Cherry-Whipped Cream Stew.)

From Pickle-Pudding-Applesauce  
To Salsa-Cottage Cheese,  
I find the special combo  
That is guaranteed to please!

I served up Pepper-Chocolate Milk,  
And Orange-Peanut Glop ...  
I once surprised my grandma  
With a frosted Ketchup Pop!

The pantry and the spice rack  
Are like a treasure trove ...  
I'll like it even more when I'm  
Allowed to use the stove.

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1. What is the main idea of this poem?
  - a. A child cooks fancy dishes for their family.
  - b. A child makes a mess of the kitchen.
  - c. A child invents strange and unusual recipes.
  - d. A child helps their grandmother by making dinner.
2. The child in the poem is **not** allowed to do two things. What are they?
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Which word best describes the child's mother?
  - a. angry
  - b. confused
  - c. patient
  - d. excited
4. What is the poet's purpose for writing this poem?
  - a. to teach readers about cooking
  - b. to make readers hungry
  - c. to persuade readers to try cooking
  - d. to make readers laugh

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# Creative Cooking Poem Activities



1. Read the poem "Creative Cooking" by Ruth Donnelly. Then read the short novel *Freckle Juice* by Judy Blume. Write a paragraph to tell how both stories are alike. Then write a second paragraph to tell how they are different.
2. On a separate sheet of paper, write a recipe for Cherry-Whipped Cream Stew, Orange-Peanut Glop, or any of the other foods mentioned in the poem. Be sure you include a list of ingredients, step-by-step directions, and an illustration.
3. Write a creative story that describes Grandma's reaction to the Frosted Ketchup Pop. Describe what Grandma says when she receives the popsicle, what her face looks like when she tastes it, and what she says to her grandchild when she eats it.
4. Make a list of kitchen safety rules that all kids should follow. (Example: Do not use the stove unless an adult is helping you.) Write your list of rules on a poster. Be sure your poster has a title and at least five different rules. Decorate your poster with markers or crayons.

## ANSWER KEY

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  - c. A child invents strange and unusual recipes.**
  - d. A child helps their grandmother by making dinner.
  
2. The child in the poem is *not* allowed to do two things. What are they?
  - a. **leave the kitchen messy**
  - b. **use the stove**
  
3. Which word best describes the child's mother?
  - a. angry
  - b. confused
  - c. patient**
  - d. excited
  
4. What is the poet's purpose for writing this poem?
  - a. to teach readers about cooking
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