

# Cooking with

Cook up a phonics feast with Letterland's new alphabet cookery book

Letterland

## Talking Tess' Tasty Tomatoes

### You will need:

3 large ripe tomatoes  
1/2 tsp brown sugar  
2 tbsp of olive oil  
1/2 small onion  
1 garlic glove  
1/2 red pepper  
100g couscous  
50g feta cheese



**1** Ask an adult to preheat the oven to 180°C. Slice about 1cm from the tomato bases and keep them. Finely chop the onion, pepper and garlic.



**2** Using a teaspoon, scoop out the tomato seeds over a bowl. Keep all the seeds and juice you scoop out.



**3** Sprinkle the sugar inside the tomatoes. Ask an adult to heat the olive oil in a frying pan over a medium heat.



**4** Add the onion and garlic and stir occasionally, until the onion is soft. Then add the chopped pepper and cook for about three minutes. Turn off the heat.



**5** Add the couscous, the tomato pulp and 100ml of boiling water to the pan. Stir, then cover and leave for five minutes. Crumble in the feta and mix gently.



**6** Spoon the mixture into tomatoes and top with the tomato bases. Put them on a baking tray and brush with olive oil. Bake for 20–25 minutes. Terrific!



### Talking Tess

Introduce Talking Tess and her phoneme 't' by playing her song (available to download from [www.scholastic.co.uk/childedplus](http://www.scholastic.co.uk/childedplus)). Then read the following story to the children: I'm Talking Tess and I'm a very busy person. I'm in charge of all the telephones and televisions in Letterland

and I know how to fix them, too! Every morning I take the train to my job in the Teletouch Tower. My job is keeping everyone in touch with each other. It's a terrific job because I get to talk to people all day long. Talking! Talking! Talking! On the telephone!

Ask the children to introduce themselves to Talking Tess. Encourage them to role play talking to her on the telephone, telling her about themselves.

### Brainteasers

Tell the children that in her free time Talking Tess often goes on talking on the telephone! That's because she likes to exchange brainteasers with her friends. Invite the children to take turns being Tess and ask, *What has four legs but can't walk, and it begins with my sound?* (Table or her teddy bear.) *What has poles, lots of pegs and has my sound at both ends?* (Tent.)

Ask the children to work with a partner and try to think of more words beginning with Tess' sound. Can they make a brainteaser with any of them? Praise their attempts with 't' words, such as *Terrific! Tremendous! Top-notch!*

Finish the exercise by giving the children one final brainteaser. Say, *It's something round and red and tasty, and the word has two little t-sounds in it. Yes, a tomato! Let's look at Talking Tess' Tasty Tomato recipe and see if we agree that it will be tasty!*

## Oscar & Peter's Olive Pizza

### You will need:

Pizza base  
Tomato purée  
125g mozzarella cheese  
1/4 red and green peppers  
1 tbsp sliced black olives  
Black pepper  
Parmesan for grating



**1** Place a pizza base on a board. Squirt on some tomato purée and spread all over with a spoon. You could have fun making 'o' and 'p' shapes!



**2** Shred the mozzarella into small pieces and sprinkle it on top.



**3** Ask an adult to help you chop up some peppers into thin strips. Then place them in a pattern on top.



**4** Now put the sliced olives on top. Look at the olive shapes – they are like little, tiny 'o's!



**5** Ask an adult to help you place the pizza on a baking tray and cook for 12 minutes at 220°C.



**6** Peter Puppy likes to put a little black pepper and grated parmesan on his pizza. You could try that too. Perfect!

**PLUS...** there are two more Letterland recipes exclusively online. Also, don't forget to download your four free Letterland songs from [www.scholastic.co.uk/childedplus](http://www.scholastic.co.uk/childedplus)

online



### Peter Puppy

Introduce Peter Puppy and his phoneme 'p'. Then tell the following story to the children: Hello, I'm Peter Puppy.

I'm a Letterland puppy so I make a special sound in words. I love playing in the Letterland park, and paddling in all the puddles after it rains! I play with my friends, the penguins and pigeons and parrot, in the park until I'm puffing and panting, p..., p..., p..., p... Then I love to plop into the park pool, to cool off!

Encourage the children to try making Peter Puppy's little panting 'p' sound. Ask them to watch each others' lips as they pant. Keep watching while they tell a partner all about Peter Puppy and his little panting sound, p-p-p! Finish the exercise by letting the class sing along to Peter Puppy's special song.

### The amazing pocket game

Read out the following story and let the children fill in the blanks:

One day Peter Puppy put on a new pullover. It was his favourite colours, (children to guess pink and purple) with a big pocket in front. He put his paw in his pocket and pulled out a...? (Children can decide what he pulls out, starting with his sound. Welcome and list all ideas: a penny, pen, potato, packet of peanuts, pizza, parrot, plane, pony, paddling pool, parachute, whatever!)

Review the list asking, *Is that possible or impossible?* Let the children decide, because in Letterland all sorts of things are possible! ■

WIN!

We are offering four schools the chance to win £50 worth of Letterland products. Just answer the following question: What important anniversary is Letterland celebrating this year? The answer can be found at [www.letterland.com](http://www.letterland.com) Send your answer marked 'Letterland giveaway 09/08', along with your name and contact details to the address on page 63.

## The Letterland Cookbook: An Alphabet of Recipes

Teach your class to create delicious desserts and scrumptious savouries with this step-by-step children's cookbook (£5.99, ISBN 9781862093935). Forty-eight colourful pages of simple recipes teach basic cookery skills, introduce children to essential new vocabulary, and teach them the alphabet – the Letterland way. Order your copy by emailing [info@letterland.com](mailto:info@letterland.com)

