Theme days are a fun way to create excitement and spark interest in what’s being served in the cafeteria. The Chicken Around the World recipes can be used to introduce interesting new foods that students might otherwise not get to taste. These recipes can easily fit into your next theme day. Here are some tips to get you started.

• Taste testing is a great way to familiarize students with new food items in a fun, interactive way. A taste test can be conducted in several different ways which include small groups, in the classroom, or in the cafeteria.

• Instead of introducing a new recipe to the whole school at once, you can do a tasting with one grade at a time. Each grade could adopt a country, research it, and decorate their classroom or the cafeteria with their artwork.

• Work with teachers planning social studies or geography lessons to introduce foods from different cultures. Visit classrooms to conduct a demonstration and taste test.

• Staff can wear chef hats with a sticker of the featured country’s flag during mealtimes.

• Students can make their own passports that can be stamped when they enter the cafeteria.

• Playing music from around the world is a great way to enhance theme days.

• Once you have your Chicken Around the World day planned, promotion is key. Let parents and family know about the event via your school’s newsletter, monthly menu, website, and/or social media. Invite teachers, staff, and parents to join the students in the cafeteria. Their support encourages student participation.

• Create excitement by starting a countdown at least a week before the event.

• Menus based on a culture make school meals fun. Celebrate diversity with cultural sensitivity regarding your school’s population.
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