



PUT LOCAL ON YOUR TRAY



## SUMMER MEAL ACTIVITY

## Try it, You'll Like It! (Zucchini Taste Test)



### Activity Information

**Grade Level:** 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>

**Objective:** To emphasize the importance of both trying new foods and voting!

**Materials:** Samples of recipes (up to three), and supplies to create a voting box (such as a small shoe box), or a mason jar, construction paper, markers, and stickers to decorate the voting jars/boxes.

**Time:** 20 minutes (with varying prep. time based on the recipe)

**Credit:** Adapted from The Growing Classroom (LifeLab), and FoodCorps.

1. Before the activity, make 1-3 different zucchini recipes from the Put Local on Your Tray Zucchini Promotion Kit (for example, roasted zucchini, zucchini boats, or pasta zucchini salad).
2. After all kids have received their meal, make an announcement about each recipe. Pass them out to the students.
3. Have a group of students staff the “voting booth” complete with jars for students to tell you if they “liked it”, “loved it”, or “tried it”. Have students tally the votes at the end.
4. Engage the students in a discussion about voting. Some prompting questions, if time allows? *How did students feel when they were able to cast their vote? How would they have felt if they were told they couldn't vote or voice their opinion? In what other ways can they become civically engaged (define the word to your students or allow them to brainstorm the meanings based on their age level).*
5. Try to serve the winning recipe for lunch the next week!

**Make it shorter:** Just make it a taste test- construct the voting jar or voting box yourself- and let students staff the voting booth, tally up the votes, and announce the winning recipe. No time to try out multiple recipes? Test out one recipe per week and at the end of the summer announce the ultimate winner!