

ORDERING AT COUNTERS

Lesson Length: 1 hour

Vocabulary & Expressions: Common foods ordered by the pound; ounces, pound, quarter pound, half pound; a little bit more/a little bit less; That’s enough.

Language/Culture Point: Abbreviations for written units of weight

Objective: Students will become familiar with units of weight and be able to order food at grocery store counters.

Materials: Index cards, Amount Cards: Weights, Picture Cards: Food by the Pound, Go Fish cards

STEP 1: ACTIVATE BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes	- Kitchen scale	- Authentic Materials/Using Pictures - Brainstorming

TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. If you have one, bring in a kitchen scale for weighing food. Otherwise, bring in a picture of one.
2. Ask students, “How much is a pound?” and “What kinds of things do you buy by the pound?” Give examples, such as ground beef, beans, whole chickens, etc. Elicit additional examples and vocabulary from students.

STEP 2: MINI-PRESENTATION WITH PROMPT

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes		- Chalk Talk

TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Do a Chalk Talk about a butcher with different customers coming in to order food. Examples could include:

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- A woman wanting to sample deli meat [draw a ham] and ordering a 1/2 lb. of sliced cheese [draw a cheese wedge]
- A man buying 2 lbs. of ground beef [draw ground beef] and 10 1-lb. steaks for a bbq [draw steaks]
- A person buying 2 lbs. of lamb bones to make lamb stock [draw a pile of bones and a bowl of soup]

Make sure that in the story the butcher gives some customers too little and some too much so that the presentation includes the target language for the lesson: pounds, ounces, a little bit more, a little bit less, enough.

STEP 3: DISCUSSION AND COMPREHENSION CHECK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Index cards	- Graphic Organizers - Signal Cards

TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. On the board or chart paper, prepare a conversion table that shows ounces to pounds:

4 ounces	1/4 pound
8 ounces	1/2 pound
12 ounces	3/4 pound
16 ounces	1 pound
32 ounces	2 pounds
2. Quickly go over the different amounts on the chart. Point out that 3 ounces is the recommended serving of meat for a healthy diet.
3. Give each student three index cards and help the students to label them “a little bit more,” “a little bit less,” and “enough.”
4. Tell students, “I went to the butcher and ordered half a pound of ground beef. He gave me six ounces. Is that enough? Do I need more or less?”
5. Students should respond by holding up the appropriate card. Practice with additional examples from your Chalk Talk.

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STEP 4: HIGHLIGHT LESSON FOCUS AND MODEL TASK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes		- Role Play

TEACHING ACTIVITY

- Tell students that today you're practicing buying food at the counters in a grocery store.
- As a class, come up with a sample dialogue between a person working at the counter and a customer. For example:
 - Worker: How can I help you?/What would you like today?
 - Customer: I would like to buy some hamburger.
 - Worker: How much do you need?
 - Customer: I'd like two pounds, please.
 - Worker: Okay. Here you go.
 - Customer: Thank you.

If necessary, write down the dialogue for the students.

- Have a student come up and help you Role Play the dialogue.
- Model the dialogue again but this time clarify other questions the customer might ask. For example:
 - Do you think two pounds is enough for 10 people?
 - How much is enough to feed 3 people?
- Model the dialogue a third time, this time highlighting how to ask for more or less. For example:
 - Worker: It's a little bit under/over is that okay?
 - Customer: Yes, that's enough./No, a little bit more, please./No, a little less, please.

STEP 5: GUIDED PRACTICE

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Amount Cards: Weights - Picture Cards: Food by the Pound	- Using Pictures - Role Play

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TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Create sets of cards with amounts written on them. Make sure each set includes 3 of each amount:
 - 1/4 pound
 - 1/2 pound
 - 3/4 pound
 - 1 pound
2. Create another set of cards with pictures of different foods you can buy by the pound, such as hamburger, shrimp, chicken, etc.
3. Have students get in pairs. Give each pair a set of Picture Cards and Amount Cards.
4. Choose another student to come up to the front of the room and practice ordering at the counter as a customer would. The students should draw one card from each set and ask for the amount shown on the cards. Switch roles with the student.
5. Bring up another student so that two students can practice together. Make sure each student practices both roles.

STEP 6: PAIR OR SMALL GROUP WORK

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Amount Cards: Weights - Picture Cards: Food by the Pound	- Using Pictures - Role Play

TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Have students take turns practicing ordering at the counter using their Cards as guides.

STEP 7: HIGHLIGHT HOW ENGLISH WORKS

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
5 minutes		



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TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Draw attention back to the chart you used earlier:

4 ounces	1/4 pound
8 ounces	1/2 pound
12 ounces	3/4 pound
16 ounces	1 pound
32 ounces	2 pounds

2. Point out that usually ounces and pounds are abbreviated in English. Give examples:

4 ounces	4 oz.
8 ounces	8 oz.
half a pound	1/2 lb.
one pound	1 lb.

3. Ask students if there are other common abbreviations they see at the store, such as “ea.” for “each.”

STEP 8: QUICK CHECK AND REVIEW

Time Frame	Materials	Teaching Strategies
10 minutes	- Cards for Go Fish	- Go Fish

TEACHING ACTIVITY

1. Create cards for students to play Go Fish in groups of 3-4. Sample cards could include:

2 lbs. raw shrimp
1/4 lb. deli turkey/4 oz. deli turkey
1 lb. cheddar cheese/16 oz. cheddar cheese
5 lbs. of potato salad
1.5 lbs. ground beef
8 oz. scallops

Use both ounces and pounds for each item.

2. Students should play Go Fish by asking each other, “Do you have __?” The first person to match up all of his/her cards is the winner.

