

Safe Food and Fun Parties

Pre-reading

Questions:

- What food would not be safe to eat? Why?

Definitions:

- Handle – to hold or touch with your hands
- Thrive – to grow quickly or well



Reading

15 Steve loves to spend time in the kitchen. He enjoys cooking. He hosts many parties
30 throughout the year. Some of his best times are spent **preparing** large meals for his
30 friends. Holiday times and weekends mean lots of food and fun for Steve.

43 Steve wants all of his guests to enjoy his food and to stay healthy. He is aware of
61 the need to keep his food fresh and safe to eat. Millions of people get food borne illnesses
79 each year. Some even die from them. Food borne illness is a sickness that results from
95 eating food that contains harmful bacteria.

101 Steve washes his hands with soap and warm water for a full 20 seconds before and
117 after handling raw foods. He also washes his cutting boards with soap and warm water
132 after each use. He knows that wiping off the cutting board with a dry cloth is not enough to
151 keep his food safe.

155 Steve keeps his kitchen counters clean. He does not want germs from the counter to
170 get into his food. He uses hot water, soap and clean dish cloths to wash his counters. Steve
188 has thrown out all of his sponges. He knows that bacteria thrive in those moist places
204 where bits of food exist. In fact, the average kitchen sponge harbors more than 7 billion
220 bacteria!

221 Steve keeps his hands and food spaces clean. He wants to keep both his friends and
237 himself safe from food borne illnesses. Good, safe food means happy and healthy guests.

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Level 3.5

Understanding

1. What does the word **prepare** mean? _____

2. Where do bacteria like to live and grow? _____

3. What does Steve no longer use in his kitchen? Why? _____

4. What is it in the food that can make people sick? _____

5. How often does Steve wash his cutting board? _____

6. What two things does Steve use when washing things in his kitchen? _____

Writing

Choice A: Retell the story in your own words.

Choice B: Write about a food borne illness that you've had. How did you feel? How did you get the illness? How long did it take you to recover from it?

Choice C: Write about what you do to keep your food safe.
