

Quince-Paste Making



In our garden we have a young quince tree. During the summer days we watched the young tree offering a really good number of fruits that look like a cross between a pear and a golden apple. During the sunny days the quinces were growing bigger and bigger and their beautiful yellow colour was getting stronger.

At the start of autumn some of the fruit were splitting open, so we harvested all of the fruit. We took our full basket to our room where we washed off the fluff from their yellow skin. The next days were really busy!! One day we took turns in chopping each fruit into small little pieces. Next, we cooked the quinces: skin, pips and all! After the quinces were cooked we mashed them and added some raw sugar. We cooked and stirred the mix for a very long time and watched how the colour of the pale yellowish paste slowly started to change into a stunning and rich deep ruby colour.

Every child had the chance to help and be involved in the making of our delicious Quince Paste. Everyone took part at different stages. Some children delighted in just observing how all the ingredients were changing while they were mixed together. Some even had few tastings before the paste was done.



On the fourth and last day the paste was cool, we place it in jars and we even shared a little with the other two kindergarten rooms!!

We finally had the chance to taste the finished Quince paste on our baking day. All the children had a little of the paste on their plate and spread it on their buttered bun. It was so Yummy!! Now we have a lot more left for the coming chilly winter...

Fabiana, 2013.



Learning experiences offered:

The children are learning to make their own choices, express pride and experience a sense of accomplishment. They are also developing their ability to delay meeting immediate needs when creating or working together (including taking turns).

Children learn to play alongside/ with others, gaining a sense of community. They are also learning to share and take turns.

Children are learning to problem solve and logically think as well as gaining working theories of maths and science.