

Children's Literature Reviews

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Cool sweets & treats to eat : easy recipes for kids to cook

Lisa Wagner.

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Edina, MN : ABDO Pub., c2007.

32 p. : col. ill. ; 21 cm.

Annotations:

Includes index.

Horn Book Guide:

Fall 2007 Nonfiction-Technology Rating 4, Recommended, with minor flaws.

Reading Measurement Programs:

Accelerated Reader

Interest Level Lower Grade

Book Level 4.8

Accelerated Reader Points **0.5**

Reviews:

Gillian Streeter (Children's Book and Play Review, May 2007)

Wagner's book represents the next step in cookbook evolution--where adult and previous children's cookbooks deal mainly in words and occasional illustrations or photos of finished dishes, here the reader finds a complete visual ingredient and tool glossary. The photos and layouts are bright, as is the text. There are symbols identifying tools and difficulty level, and each step is numbered (and some of the steps are pictured). There is also a breakdown of basic cookery terms, such as grating, mixing, and chopping, at the front of the book. The cooking is very simple and straight-forward; the recipes are specifically for snack foods, none of which contain meat (though variations on the nacho recipe mention cooks can add taco meat). The ABDO links page listed under "Websites" does not appear to list this book nor does it have any cooking links, though it does have some listed for nutrition. Helpful parts of the book include an alphabetical index, a note to adult helpers at the beginning of the book, a table of contents, and the wonderful photographs of the cooking process, materials, tools, and foods. Some readers may find the layout a bit too bright and busy, but it mostly comes across as fun. Rating: Excellent. Reading Level: Preschool; Primary. Category: Informational books. 2007, ABDO Publishing, 32 p., \$22.78. © 2002, Brigham Young University.

Gwynne Spencer (Children's Literature)

Part of the "Checkerboard How-To Library," this book includes eight snack recipes: Dilly and Chilly Dips for Veggies, Nachos with Pico de Gallo, No-Bake Energy Bars, Super Cereal Snack Mix, Berry Frozen Fruit Pops, Over-the-Top-Apple Crisp, Chocolate-Dipper Treats, and Campfire-Free S'Mores. The section titled "What Makes Cooking So Cool" introduces the recipes, tells readers how the book works, and offers encouragement for new chefs. The section called "Basics" colorfully teaches new cooks to ask permission, to be prepared, be smart, be safe in the kitchen, and to be clean and neat. It also teaches new cooks how to measure and includes symbols used in the book. The section called "Tool Box" provides photographs of all the implements and appliances used in the recipes, thus preventing misunderstandings a la Amelia Bedelia. The "Cool Cooking Terms" section photographically introduces vocabulary used in the recipes: peel, chop, mince, spread, grate, core, slice, fold, mix,

grease. The "Coolest Ingredients" section has clear photos of all the ingredients mentioned in the recipes. Also included is a sidebar called "Allergy Alert" because nuts are included in some recipes. These features make this book (and the series) ideal for developmentally challenged adults as well as for kids in the kitchen. The book includes an index and a glossary. 2007, ABDO Publishing, \$22.78. Ages 6 to 12.

Horn Book (The Horn Book Guide, Fall 2007)

These cookbooks feature kid-friendly treats such as caramel corn, pizza, tacos, and smoothies. Each starts with cooking basics then outlines tools, ingredients, and techniques. Though some of the type is small and the symbols confusing, the easy-to-follow recipes are illustrated with photographs of many of the steps and the finished product. Variations and "Even Cooler!" enhancements are included. Glos., ind. (Checkerboard How-To Library: Cool Cooking series). Category: Nonfiction-Technology. 2007, ABDO, 32pp, 22.78. Ages 9 to 12. Rating: 4: Recommended, with minor flaws.

Series:

[Cool cooking](#)

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