COOKERY IS AN INDISPENSABLE LIFE SKILL

by: MAYBEL B. CEREZO

Orani National High School Main

Cooking is so much more than just putting food on the table — it's a powerful skill that transforms lives in ways big and small. It's about taking charge, getting creative, and building connections that make life richer. Whether you're whipping up a quick dinner or dreaming of starting a food business, cooking is a game-changer that touches everything from your health to your wallet to your community.

When you learn to cook, you're not just feeding yourself—you're taking control of what goes into your body. You can pick fresh ingredients, tweak recipes to fit your needs (like cutting sugar or going gluten-free), and make healthier choices without relying on takeout or processed junk (Rat Race Running, 2024). Plus, cooking at home saves serious cash compared to eating out. It's also a brain workout—measuring ingredients, tweaking flavors, and juggling tasks sharpen your problem-solving and creativity (Flour Power Studios, 2023). And let's be real: there's something calming about chopping veggies or stirring a pot. It's a stress-reliever that engages all your senses (Selfup, 2023).

Cooking can also be your ticket to entrepreneurship. Got a killer recipe? You could turn it into a food truck, a catering gig, or even an online bakery. The skills you pick up—like budgeting, presentation, or connecting with customers—set you up to shine in a competitive market (ICCA Dubai, 2023). Thanks to social media and delivery apps, it's easier than ever to turn your passion into a paycheck, whether through a food blog, a YouTube channel, or a small business (Selfup, 2023). You could even teach cooking classes, sharing your love for food while making a living (Flour Power Studios, 2023). From vegan dishes to family recipes, there's a niche for everyone.

But cooking's impact goes beyond your kitchen or bank account. It's good for your health, cutting out the unhealthy fats and additives in processed foods (Rat Race Running, 2024). It's also kinder to the planet – using local, seasonal ingredients and turning leftovers into new meals cuts waste and supports sustainability (Sushant University, 2023). Plus, cooking connects us to our roots and each other. Passing down family recipes keeps traditions alive, while trying new cuisines opens doors to different cultures (Rat Race Running, 2024). Sharing a home-cooked meal with friends or family? That's where memories are made.

At its core, cooking is about empowerment. It's a skill that lets you live healthier, spark your creativity, and bring people together. Whether you're feeding your body, chasing a dream, or strengthening your community, cooking is a life skill that's worth mastering.

References:

important? Flour Power Studios. (2023).Why cooking are classes https://flourpowerstudios.com/why-are-cooking-classes-important/

ICCA Dubai. (2023). The secret skills of starting a successful food business. https://www.iccadubai.ae/stockpot/the-secret-skills-of-starting-a-successful-foodbusiness

10 Rat Race Running. (2024).reasons why cooking is important. https://ratracerunning.com/10-reasons-why-cooking-is-important/

Selfup. (2023).**Importance** of cooking daily life. https://newin york.selfup.com/blogs/nyc-magazine/importance-of-cooking-daily-life

depedbataan.comPublications

Sushant University. (2023). The importance of cooking as a life skill. https://sushantuniversity.edu.in/blog/the-importance-of-cooking-as-a-life-skill/

depedbataan.com

The Official Website of DepED Division of Bataan