INTRODUCTION

Basic Menu Math – Restaurant is a "real-life" addition program using realistic menus along with visual worksheets for two full-service restaurants, "American Cafe" and "Around The World." By featuring food illustrations both on the menus and worksheets, the program helps individuals to increase independent math skills, basic reading skills, and sight word recognition skills. The program is also easy to use with individuals who have limited or no reading skills.

PCI's Janie Haugen envisioned the program after observing students in her class struggling to order within their personal budgets at various types of restaurants. She created the worksheets to show students how to figure the total cost of a meal *before* placing a food order. The 96 worksheets have practice activities that teach students to stay within their food "budget" or "cash-on-hand" limits.



"American Cafe" Worksheet

"Around The World" Worksheet

GETTING STARTED

- **1. CALCULATOR USE:** As students with varying math needs and abilities will be using this program, the teacher should decide which students, if any, should use calculators. PCI's Money Calc is especially effective for students who need assistance working money math.
- 2. USING THE ANSWER KEY/PROGRESS CHART: The Answer Key/Progress Chart should be reproduced for each student. This chart helps teachers maintain a record of each student's ability to obtain correct answers and keep track of each student's place in the program.
- **3. READING LEVEL:** Students with limited or no reading skills can work the math by finding the matching food pictures on the corresponding menus to locate the correct prices.
- **4. EXPLAIN LIFE SKILLS MATH CONCEPT:** Tell students that they are beginning a full-service restaurant math program. Define the term "full-service" as a restaurant where diners may be seated by a host or hostess, a wait person comes to the table to take everyone's food order, and the food bill can either be paid to the wait person or to a cashier upon leaving. Explain that the participants will be working math problems to find the total costs of various types of restaurant meals. Review that many foods on a restaurant menu look appetizing, but that people need to narrow their food choices. Explain that ordering a smaller amount of food helps keep people within their food budget and is a healthier eating plan.

Write on the board the humorous quote, "I guess your eyes were bigger than your stomach." Ask for volunteers to explain the quote's meaning. If assistance is needed, explain that the quote refers to a person who orders more food than he or she could possibly eat at one sitting. Explain that ordering too much food is wasteful and should be avoided whenever possible.

5. REVIEW THE MENUS: Give all participants a menu to review. Ask them to find the name of the restaurant on the front of the menu (e.g., "American Cafe" or "Around The World"). Ask for a volunteer to describe the restaurant's logo (e.g., "American Cafe" - hamburger, fries, and soft drink on an American flag motif or "Around The World" - a globe of the world with various foods circling it). This review is especially important for students with limited or no reading skills.

Ask for volunteers to state the following information about the food items on the menus.

- **A. IDENTIFY FOOD ITEMS** by reading or recognizing the written words and/or pictures (e.g., Potato Skins, Hawaiian Chicken, Carrot Cake, Cheese Ravioli, Shrimp & Snow Peas, Fruit Punch). Assist participants as needed with the correct pronunciation of all food items.
- B. STATE THE PRICE OF FOOD ITEMS by reading or by pointing to the correct price on the menu (e.g., Potato Skins, Half-Order (6) \$3.60; Hawaiian Chicken (White Meat) \$3.95; Carrot Cake (Cake Only) \$2.79; Cheese Ravioli, Half-Order (8) \$2.05; Shrimp & Snow Peas (Lunch) \$5.75; Fruit Punch \$.88).
- **C. IDENTIFY PORTION SIZES** by reading or recognizing the written words (e.g., Half-Order or Full-Order, Cup or Bowl, Small or Large, Lunch or Dinner). Assist participants as needed with the correct pronunciation of the size portions of all food items.

- **6. HAND OUT WORKSHEETS:** Everyone should have a sharpened pencil with a good eraser. Ask participants to write their names and the date on the top of all worksheets or on the front worksheet and staple the sheets together. Point out that the same size food pictures are used on the menus and worksheets for different size food portions (e.g., Chicken Tortilla Soup, Cup and Bowl use the same picture; Spaghetti & Meatballs, Lunch and Dinner use the same picture; Carrot Cake, Cake Only and With Ice Cream use the same picture).
- **7. REVIEW WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONS:** Read the instructions on the top of the first worksheet aloud to the group so participants know how to perform the math.
 - **A.** Explain that food items on the worksheets that have a square " \Box " with a check mark " $\sqrt{}$," mean that a size portion has been selected (e.g., Half-Order or Full-Order, Cup or Bowl, Small or Large, Lunch or Dinner). Point out that the check marks " $\sqrt{}$ " determine the item price.
 - **B.** Explain that food items on the worksheets that have a circle "O" in front of them mean that the person needs to make a choice (e.g., beef or turkey meat loaf, grilled or fried fish, regular or spicy fried chicken, beef or chicken tacos, sweetened or unsweetened iced tea). Point out that the choices students make will not affect the price of the foods.
 - **C.** Explain that when a glass of water is listed on the worksheet, students should draw a straight, horizontal line where the price should go to indicate a "zero" amount because the drink is free.

NOTE TO TEACHER: Some of the meal totals in this program are purposely quite high for one meal. Participants who think the cost of a meal is too high should be encouraged to decide which food item(s) can be eliminated to bring the total to a more reasonable dollar amount. This activity addresses the common occurrence of people wanting to order more food than is economically sound. This practice helps students learn to adjust the number of food items they initially want to order after determining the total cost. Allow students to use their own eating preferences when possible, such as eliminating egg drop soup because they don't like that type of soup or substituting water for cola because they don't drink caffeine and want to save money.

- **8. OBSERVE PARTICIPANTS:** Check participants' work near the beginning of the math session, and periodically throughout, to make sure they understand how to fill out the sheets and work the addition problems. Encourage everyone to work with as much independence as possible. Give assistance on an "as needed" basis only.
- **9. REVIEW ANSWERS:** Using the Answer Key/Progress Charts provided on pages 9 16, review each person's worksheets on an individual basis. Explain any wrong answers and ask the person to rework the math problems.
- **10. LEAD A GROUP DISCUSSION:** While reviewing each worksheet, point out how ordering extra items increases the overall price of a meal. Ask students for ideas on how to "order smartly" at full-service restaurants in their community (e.g., choose an appetizer that several people like and split the cost, ask a fellow diner to split a dessert, order a chef salad as a meal [not with a main entree], don't order an appetizer, order water to drink, order the smallest size of the main entree, skip dessert, use restaurant discount coupons from the newspaper, order the "special" meal).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING "AMERICAN CAFE" WORKSHEETS

A Using the "American Cafe" menu, find the price of each food item on the worksheet.

B Write the price of each food item on the worksheet on the blank line to the right of its picture.

C Do the math and write the answer by the \$ sign at the bottom of the problem.





INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING "AROUND THE WORLD" WORKSHEETS

A Using the "Around The World" menu, find the price of each food item on the worksheet.

B Write the price of each food item on the worksheet on the blank line to the right of its picture.

C Do the math and write the answer by the \$ sign at the bottom of the problem.



