



Library: **Webster Public Library**

Librarian: **Lisa C. Wemett**

Title of Program or Event: **Pizza Taste Off**

Age level: gr.6/age 11+

Description of Activity:

Who has the best pizza in Webster? Come and vote for your favorite! After the pizza tasting, the fun continues with the game show to end all game shows, “Survive Jeopardy and Feel Like a Millionaire!” Everybody plays! Everybody wins!

Objectives / Goals:

Opportunity for teens and family members to mingle, have fun playing a game, and trying products they might not otherwise select to purchase.

Suggested setting:

Café; use long tables and counter to hold pizza and beverages; use regular tables and chairs for participants to sit informally.

Time required: 1½ hr. Suggested timetable: 5:30 set up; 6:30 p.m. tasting and game begins; 7:30 p.m. end; 8 p.m. café cleaned up.

Materials and Staff needed:

long tables (2-3); trays for pizza strips; numbered place cards or tents (i.e., Pizza #1); Styrofoam divided plates with numbers written on edge to match pizza numbers (alternative: with ball-point pen, divide a round foam plate into quadrants and number the rim 1 to 4); markers to number pizza boxes; pizza cutters or kitchen scissors; latex gloves for food servers; beverages; ballots; pencils; game board (categories, signs, questions, answers)—might use laptop computer, media projector, AV cart, screen, extension cords; prizes for each participant in a bucket labeled “Bucket O’ Lovely Parting Gifts”; portable easels (2-4) to display game board, if not electronic; thank you cards (one per pizza parlor); slips to distribute to assign participants into teams for the game; answer cards, one set per team; script for game show host of questions posted and correct answers; digital camera. Staff: pizza pick-up helpers (2) who can also be vote tally “calculators” during the game show; pizza servers (3 teen volunteers); game show hosts (2 adults); technician to run the PowerPoint game for the show host. = 8-10 people. Later, thank you letters and certificates to be awarded to the winning pizzerias.

Advanced Preparation:

1. contact local pizza parlors by letter and then by phone to ask donation of two large (or one sheet pizza) **uncut** cheese pizzas; indicate that we are willing to pick up. (Specifically invited local pizzerias to be compared to one another, rather than the franchise chains like Pizza Hut or Dominos.)
2. design ballots and run copies
3. set café with long tables, pizza strips on trays, numbered place cards, numbered plates for voters, ballots, pens
4. preparation for game show: line up “Vanna Anna” to display the multiple choice questions; line up game show host, “Rob Mybanks” to explain game rules, read questions and take answers; development of rules, questions, game board: 5-7 categories (possibly use PowerPoint presentation to construct this game); prizes solicited for every player (“Bucket O’ Lovely Parting Gifts”).

Procedure:

1. cut pizza into strips; place on numbered trays, next to table number cards
2. distribute ballot and pens
3. teens take 1 strip of pizza for each pizza to be judged. Mark ballot.
4. game show—each contestant can answer up to three questions correctly. they can use a lifeline by polling the audience during their turn; participant reads question and selects multiple choice answer—game show host reads all out loud to audience; meanwhile, helpers tally ballots for pizza voting
5. intermission of game show: announce pizza winner(s).
6. prizes for all; finish off pizza.
7. participants sign thank you cards to send to the pizza shops

Modifications:

Check on food allergies for those attending in regards to artificial ingredients. Cut pizza into small pieces so easier to bite, chew, and swallow. Provide game show questions and answer choices ahead of time for review. Devise method to mix students with special needs with typical teens for game show teams. Provide peer partner volunteer to assist 1-on-1 as needed.

Evaluation:

number of attendees; comments from participants; posting ballot responses in Teen Lounge, with photos to show how much fun it was and what pizza establishments they should try in the future, based on their peers’ votes.