

A Recipe with No Measurements



Family memory · reunions & shared meals

An inherited recipe is missing every measurement. Recreating it means accepting more than one good version.

Four reader parts. About 2–4 minutes of reading, or 12–20 minutes with discussion and the closing activity.

Free preview booklet. Read together or pass. Home-print edition; this is not a bound-book order.

READER 1 / PASS THE STORY

In the back of a drawer, the cousins found Aunt Rosa's recipe for Sunday bread. It listed flour, water, salt, and yeast. Beside the instructions she had written "until it feels right." There were no amounts, no temperature, and no time. Jules called it useless. Mira called it a treasure. They agreed to try it before deciding who was right.

READER 2 / PASS THE STORY

Everyone remembered the bread differently. Jules said the crust was dark. Mira said it was soft. Their uncle remembered seeds on top; their mother remembered none. The youngest cousin, Leo, had never tasted it at all. While the others argued about accuracy, he asked whether they could make two small loaves. Nobody could think of a good reason not to.

PAUSE TOGETHER

What would count as success for this group: an exact copy, good bread, or something else?

There is no single right answer. Hear each other before continuing.

READER 3 / PASS THE STORY

The first loaf was dense. The second spread sideways. Jules wanted to start again and hide the evidence. Mira sliced the dense loaf thinly and toasted it. Leo called the flat one “picnic bread” because it held a surprising amount of jam. When their mother tasted it, she laughed. “Rosa’s first batch always went wrong,” she said. “She gave those loaves names too.”

READER 4 / PASS THE STORY

They wrote measurements on a new card, along with the changes they would try next time. Underneath, Leo added the names of both loaves. Mira tucked the old recipe behind it. They had not recovered a perfect Sunday from the past. They had made a noisy Saturday in the present, and enough toast for everyone. Jules took the last piece and asked whether anyone had written down the oven setting.

Take a breath. Then turn the page for your conversation.

After the last line

1. Can people remember the same tradition differently and all be sincere?
2. What family or group tradition would you adapt rather than copy?
3. What new tradition could include someone who missed the earlier chapters?

A SMALL THING TO DO TOGETHER

Create a “recipe” for a good gathering: each person contributes one ingredient such as time, a game, a quiet corner, or a favorite snack.

Host notes: Invite four readers, rotate in pairs, or let one person read it all. Listening and passing count.

Suggested for ages 8+ with a facilitator who has previewed the story. Discuss the characters rather than your own life whenever you prefer.

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