



## TasteWiseKids

LET'S HAVE AN  
**ELECTION**

**Voting is a way for a group of people to decide something. Follow the instructions below to have your own dinner election!**

This activity is designed to teach the importance of voting and how your vote affects the outcome of an election! Follow the easy steps below and use our printable ballot template to help your kids learn about democracy by voting for their dinner. Adapt this activity however best suits your family and have fun!

### Step One:

It's time to decide **what's on the ballot**. You can consider this to be similar to a primary. Have different family members suggest ideas for the meal. You can discuss as much or as little as you'd like. Narrow it down to 2-3 options depending on how many family members you have.

### Step Two:

Use the ballot template on the next page to fill in the meal options so that there are **enough ballots for each family member**. You can use this time to explain how [voter registration](#) works and the importance of getting a ballot for everyone.

### Step Three:

Hold an election! Each family member **fills out their ballot in a private place**, selecting the meal they want most for dinner. You can make a ballot box out of cardboard or use a hat or bowl to drop completed ballots in.

### Step Four:

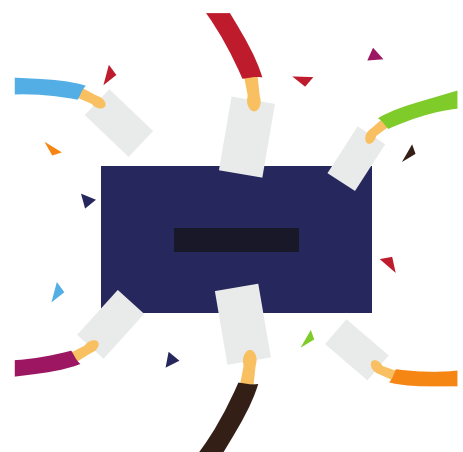
Now we have to **count the votes**. You can have one person be in charge of counting the votes or you can sit at the table together and count them out loud. Write down how many votes each option received. Whichever meal has the most votes wins.

### Step Five:

Want to take it a step further? Choose 2 family members to run as **candidates for who will cook dinner that night**.

You can host a **debate** where each candidate has the chance to talk about what they'd like to cook and why. Maybe they have more than one idea. The audience can ask questions for the candidates to respond to. Follow steps 1-4 but with the candidates on the ballot instead of the meals.

The winning candidate then announces what they've decided to cook. Explain how elected leaders affect the laws that get passed, just like the cooking candidate got to decide what everyone would be eating.





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TIME TO  
**VOTE**

Use the template below to create a ballot for your dinner election. You can write in the name of the meal options or use the space to draw a picture of the food.

**OFFICIAL  
BALLOT**

Select One Option from Below by  
Checking the Circle Next to it.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fold Your Ballot and Place it in the Ballot Box.  
Thank You for Voting!



## TasteWiseKids

# WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

**Need some ideas for what to put on your ballot?  
Check out some easy meal options below. Don't want  
to commit to being prepared for three different meal  
options? Hold your election for snack time instead.**



### Snacks:

- Pretzels and Hummus

Salty, crunchy meets smooth and creamy in this easy and filling snack combo. Drizzle olive oil or sprinkle Everything Bagel seasoning for an added bit of Yum!

- Patriotic Fruit Salad

Strawberries, Bananas and Blueberries come together for a delicious all-American snack.

- Président Brie and Crackers

What better way to celebrate election day than with this aptly named, buttery cheese. Try it with a little cranberry chutney for a seasonal addition.

### Dinner:

- Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup

No President and VP could ever be a better match than these two things. We suggest using sourdough for an instant upgrade.

- Brussel Sprout Pizza

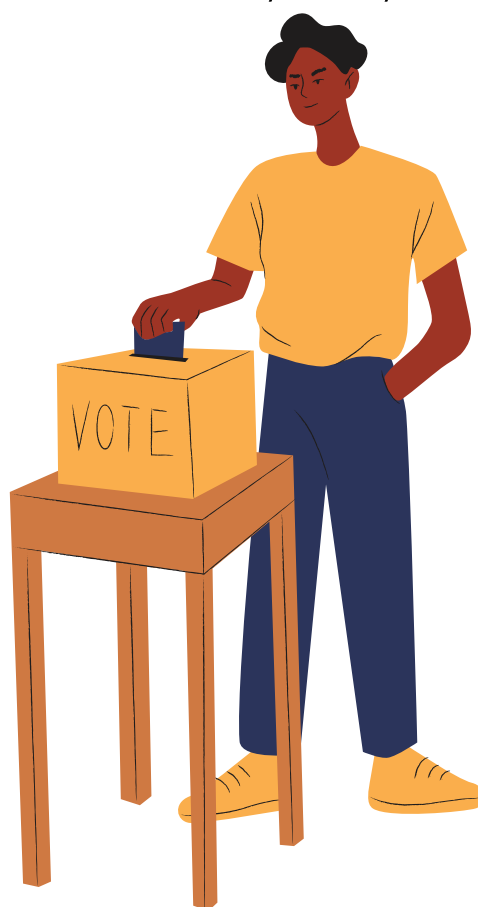
Pre-bake your pizza crust before adding toppings so your sprouts stay beautifully crunchy. A bit of maple syrup mixed with hot sauce adds a spicy sweet element.

- Terriyaki Chicken Wraps

Wrap up election day with this easy asian inspired tortilla wrap. Sweet pineapple, crunchy red onion and tangy terriyaki chicken have no debate being rolled into this yummy bundle.

- Fall Beet Salad

You can't go wrong adding oven roasted beets and crumbly goat cheese to a mixed greens salad. Add some toasted walnuts for extra an extra cozy meal.



**Did you enjoy this activity? Use it for other decisions you make as a family, like special occasion meals or even what movie to watch together.**