Sensational Schoolyard Salsa! Northside Elementary School

Integrated lesson plan for literacy, math, science and social studies by Susan Reich, Shelly Keefer, Laurie Dodd

A. Background knowledge- start with reading a picture book about salsa, Chicks and Salsa by Aaron Reynolds.

KWL chart- 1) what do you know about salsa? tried it? made it?
2) what do you want to know about making salsa?
3) what did you learn about salsa? making it?

Make an ingredients list. tomatoes, onion, jalapeños, garlic, cilantro, salt, pepper

(Differentiate: K-2 do senses experiments with ingredients
3-5 do research on history of salsa, types of salsa within US and Mexico, pick a recipe for an ingredients list for market.)

B. Walk to Farmer’s Market, purchase ingredients to make a specific salsa (3-5).

Make salsa incorporate math skills with measurements.

C. Have a tasting session. (K-2 do another five senses experiment with finished product)
Both K-2 and 3-5, compare freshly made salsa with store bought.

K-2 Venn diagram with both salsas.
3-5 Using a Venn diagram write persuasive paragraph - which is better?

D. Reflections-Journaling - process of making the salsa - why are different salsas popular in certain locations?

F. Extension: Community members (family) homemade tortillas with the possibility of making at school
Bring a salsa recipe from home or samples of homemade salsa
Plan own salsa garden, start seedlings or obtain bulbs at school, then take home.