

Homemade fast food



It comes in tubs, wrapped in aluminum or surrounded by waxed paper. Whipped, salted, sweet — to a child, a simple food like butter seems to come directly from a machine.

For children who think mashed potatoes evolve from a box, that hamburger comes ready-made in plastic containers, or that the Dairy Queen is the equivalent of a cow's udder, belief in processed, packaged, manufactured, assembly line food is more natural than the food itself.

But children can see the origins of the food they eat: They can even take an active part in food preparation, so that they do not feel dependent on fast food franchises.

Butter churning is an intriguing place to start. All that's required is a wooden spoon, running water, a clean pint jar with a tight cap, and one cup whipping cream.

Bring the cream to room temperature. Pour it into the jar and screw on the top. Shake and shake and shake the jar. Shake until lumps start to appear, about 10 minutes. Continue to shake until the butter is uniform in consistency. And you have it — curds of butter, lumps of butter, hunks of butter!

Patricia Bordman, a free-lance writer and photographer, has taught elementary school and conducted workshops and lectures on education. She is a master's degree candidate at Oakland University specializing in early childhood. Mrs. Bordman welcomes suggestions and comments. Write her c/o the Observer-Eccentric Newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

Keep the butter in the refrigerator until serving time. But who can wait? Instead of fast food, you'll have fast eaters.



Pat Bordman

REMOVE stains from laundry by rubbing butter on the stains with a cloth until stains disappear, then launder. Try an Observer & Eccentric Classified Ad to make the unwanted, unused items in your garage, basement, closet or attic disappear.

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APATRICIA BORDMAN

From PYO

The Protestant Youth Organization, a child and family service, is selling two Christmas cards this year. This one costs \$3 for a box of 25; shepherd scene in gilt on light blue is \$6 for 25. Imprinting is available for \$4 per 100 cards. Orders should be placed with the organization's office, 17105 W. 12 Mile, Southfield, telephone 557-8390.



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