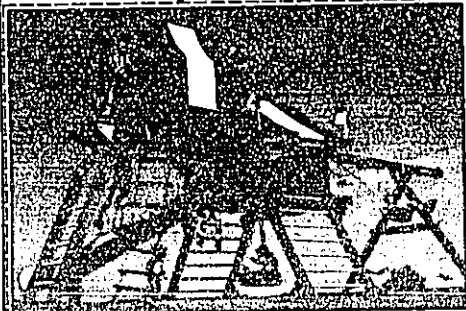


Every Child needs a Place of Their Own



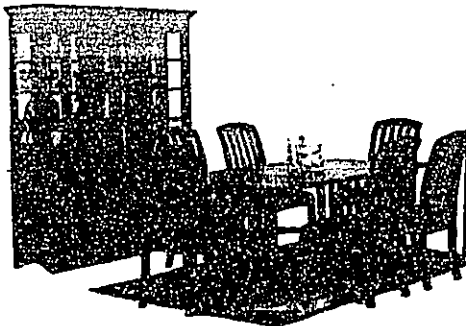
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INVITING IDEAS

Go crackers for lunch



RUTH MOSSOR JOHRSTON

Back to packing lunches, afternoon snacks and after dinner treats — school is in session. If you're out of ideas, going crackers may be your solution, not your diagnosis!

Crackers are a wonderful base for nutritional, low fat munchies. It took me a long while to come to this conclusion, because I grew up in the snack food industry. My father was the co-owner of Everkrisp Potato Chip Company, which meant snacks were plentiful. We were the neighborhood and family's built-in convenience store. Our factory produced potato chips (even the flavored ones), cheese popcorn, and cheese curls. Dad was also a distributor for pretzels, pork rinds, peanuts, and for awhile, bubble gum — a child's dream come true — Willy Wonka had nothing on me. It took a long time to get my mind retrained to snack foods being something other than what I was raised with.

Making crackers is not unlike making

biscuits (the American type), but rolling out the dough thin — then baking them. English recipes for Cracknels date back to the 1700s. The dish-shaped "cakes" were baked so hard they would surely crackle under your teeth as you ate them. Here's a modern version of the recipe.

CRACKNELS

- 1 cup 1/2 percent milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 package yeast
- 2 tablespoons warm water
- 2 3/4 to 3 cups all purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, softened

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. In a saucepan over medium heat — warm the milk gently with the salt, until the salt appears to be dissolved. Let cool until tepid.

Dissolve the yeast in the 2 tablespoons of warm water. Add both liquids to the 2 3/4 cups of flour and butter. Knead for approximately 8-10 minutes, adding the additional 1/4 cup of flour if the dough seems too soft.

See INVITING, 7D

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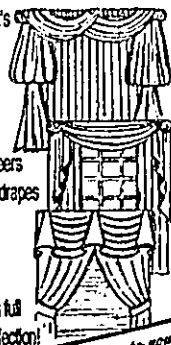
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