



# The Mini Page

**Next Week:**  
Stained glass

Issue 46, 2024

Founded by Betty Debnam

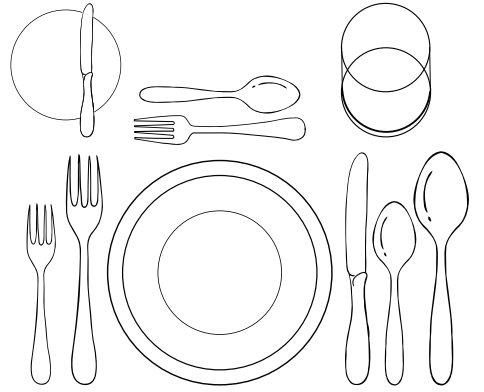


**Mini Fact:**

The first rule of good table manners: Put your napkin in your lap.

**Setting the table**

Are you helping set the table? It's sometimes hard to remember which pieces go where. Use this guide; you may not have as many utensils as are seen here.



If you're confused about which item to use first, always start at the outside and work your way in. For example, the salad fork is on the far left.

**House guest manners**

- I hang up my wet towel after taking a shower or bath. I keep my dirty clothes piled together, out of the way of others.

- I pick up toys, books and games after I'm done playing with them. I move them out of walking paths.

The holiday season is here! Grandmothers and grandfathers, aunts and uncles, relatives and friends are welcoming "the kids." What sort of guest are you? Will they want you back anytime soon?

Take The Mini Page's guest checkup test to find out. Draw faces like these in the circles while you think about these questions.



- I use my best table manners. Even if I am served something I don't like, I try a bite. I don't say "Yuck" or "I don't like that."

- I am pleasant. I especially try hard to get along with brothers, sisters, cousins and other kids.

- I do not ask for snacks. I stick to mealtimes or to snacks offered by my host. I don't want to spoil the holiday dinner.

- I say "thank you" and compliment the cooks for the delicious food.



photo by Nicole Mays

- I ask if I can help with any of the food preparation.

- I ask how I can help with setting the table, loading the dishwasher, and washing and drying pots and pans.

- I arrive at the dinner table with a clean face and hands and neat clothing.

- I take small first portions. Later, after everyone has been served, I may ask for seconds.

- I stay in my seat until I've been excused from the table. (Pro tip: Some of the best family stories are told around holiday dinner tables!)

- I am polite to other guests. I say "Nice to meet you!" and look them in the eyes. I use "yes" and "no" rather than "uh-huh."

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**Resources**



**On the Web:**

- bit.ly/MPTablemanners

**At the library:**

- "Emily Post's Table Manners for Kids" by Cindy P. Senning and Peggy Post
- "Dude, That's Rude!" by Pamela Espeland and Elizabeth Verdick

**Try 'n' Find**

Words that remind us of visiting manners are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



CLEAN, COOKS, DINNER, EXCUSED, FOOD, GUEST, HELP, HOLIDAY, HOST, MANNERS, POLITE, PORTIONS, PREPARATION, SEASON, SETTING, TABLE, UTENSILS, VISITING.

X D D E S U C X E D O O F C E  
 F L G N I T I S I V Z H R O R  
 T A B L E V S C O W Q I E O N  
 P M T U T E N S I L S D T K A  
 O D S E A S O N G B P T C S E  
 L I T S E U G N I T T E S A L  
 I N U P O R T I O N S G R O C  
 T N P L E H Y A D I L O H X H  
 E E N O I T A R A P E R P Q X  
 I R V Q S R E N N A M O J J H

**Cook's Corner**

**Zucchini Fritters**

**You'll need:**

- 1 egg
- 1 1/2 cups grated zucchini (1 medium zucchini)
- 1/4 cup finely minced red onion (optional)

- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- salt to taste



**What to do:**

- Beat egg in medium bowl. Add grated zucchini, onion and flour. Mix well.
- Heat olive oil in large skillet on medium heat.
- Drop zucchini mixture by tablespoons into heated olive oil. Brown each side 30 to 45 seconds.
- Remove to drain on paper towels.
- Sprinkle with salt to desired taste. Serves 4.

\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

**Mini Jokes**



**Mason:** What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?

**Molly:** "Stick with me, and we'll go places!"

**Eco Note**



The United Nations' weather agency reports that the planet's protective ozone layer is on a "path to long-term recovery," despite a temporary setback from the massive volcanic eruption near Tonga in early 2023. The eruption shot water vapor into the stratosphere, briefly accelerating ozone depletion over Antarctica. However, a new World Meteorological Organization report concludes that the ozone layer is gradually thickening after decades of depletion caused by human-made chemicals, which are now being phased out.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

**For later:**

Look in your newspaper for articles about Thanksgiving dinner.

**Teachers:** Follow and interact with The Mini Page on Facebook!



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1. To be useful; to give assistance (4-letter verb)

□ □ □ □

2. Wanting to bring happiness to others; nice (4-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □

3. Showing good manners by being thoughtful (6-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □ □

4. Feeling or showing appreciation; grateful (8-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

- Julie plans to \_\_\_\_\_ her mom set the holiday table at noon.
- Brenda was very \_\_\_\_\_ to help wash dishes after the meal.
- Juan was \_\_\_\_\_ when he asked, "Is there more dessert?"
- Charlie was \_\_\_\_\_ for all of the delicious foods.

**ROOTONYM®**  
by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Help, Kind, Polite, Thankful.

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**KidSpot** By Dan Thompson 11-16

**The donuts**

A local bakery is selling Greyson's favorite donuts. They cost .75 each. He has \$9.00 to spend. How many donuts can he buy?

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