

## 04737 Fuller Road, East Jordan, MI 49727 (231) 536-3369 |www.miravenhill.org info@miravenhill.org

Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

## Potatoes in & out

Happy Earth Day! You are going to "play" with food today! You will need a potato, a ruler and a pencil or watercolor marker. Use your observation skills to really look at a potato. Try making predictions first and then observing size, shape, color, texture, parts and PATTERNS. Is your potato longer or shorter than your hand? Predict & observe. Measure the length and width with a ruler. Predict and observe. You can even measure the circumference with a measuring tape that is flexible. What is the shape of your potato: square, rectangular, round? What color is your potato? Is it the same color all over? Describe the potato's texture. Does it feel smooth or rough or bumpy or all of the above? Can you find the "eyes" on the potato? Have they started to sprout or turn green & get bumpy as they grow? Look at both ends of the potato. Find the end with a bunch of eyes. Use the pencil or marker to draw a circle around each of the eyes. Draw circles around all the eyes on the potato. Look carefully. Do you see a pattern? If you start at the end with all the eyes, you will see that they spiral out in a pattern. Once you have thoroughly examined the outside of the potato, think about the inside of the potato. Cut the potato open lengthwise. (My potato isn't the best!) What color is it? is it all the same color? Is there any pattern that you can see? Feel the cut surface. Notice anything? Wash & peel the potato, cut it up, cook it and enjoy eating it. What is your favorite way to eat potatoes? Maybe you would like to try something new. With an adult, slice the potato into thin slices, like you would for scalloped potatoes. Heat some oil in a skillet—about a half inch deep and fry yourself up some potato chips! Add a little salt and enjoy a treat! Remember to clean up, when you are done being a food scientist.



1 Get supplies



2 Circle eyes & connect



3 Observe the inside



4 Slice & fry in oil



5 Add salt & enjoy!