

# Lunch Note Detectives

Research question: How can our school waste less food at lunch?

**3W7** “Recall relevant information from experiences or gather information from multiple sources; take brief notes on sources and sort evidence into provided categories.”

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## HELPS ANSWER

A KEEP note gives a fact, idea, or observation that helps answer the research question. Keep the source with the note.

Cook's note: Serving half cups of peas before offering seconds can leave less food uneaten.

## DOES NOT HELP

A SKIP note does not help answer the research question. Do not use it as evidence.

Town flyer: The pool opens in June.

## 1 SORT \_\_\_\_\_ 8 items

Part 1: Circle KEEP or SKIP for each note; Part 2: Choose two notes and explain why each note does or does not help answer the question.

- |    |                                                                                       |                                     |                                     |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. | Source, cafeteria worker: Many whole apples are tossed into the trash.                | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 2. | Source, student survey: Some students say they are given more food than they can eat. | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 3. | Source, school website: The school opened in 1988.                                    | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 4. | Source, science article: Composting turns food scraps into soil.                      | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 5. | Source, my experience: The lunch line is longest on pizza day.                        | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 6. | Source, principal interview: The school colors are blue and gold.                     | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 7. | Source, my experience: I have seen unopened yogurt cups left on lunch tables.         | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |
| 8. | Source, food rescue group website: Some schools donate safe, unopened food.           | <input type="button" value="KEEP"/> | <input type="button" value="SKIP"/> |

2

PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_ HOW I KNEW \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ITEM # \_\_\_\_\_ HOW I KNEW \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3

MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Part 3 MAKE YOUR OWN: Write one new KEEP note and one new SKIP note for the research question. Write a source for each note.

KEEP

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SKIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CHALLENGE

Challenge: Write three sentences that answer the research question. Use two KEEP notes from different sources and one thing you have noticed at lunch.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART 1 • SORT**

| # | ITEM                                                                                  | CATEGORY    | WHY                                                                     |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Source, cafeteria worker: Many whole apples are tossed into the trash.                | <b>KEEP</b> | This shows food that is being wasted at lunch.                          |
| 2 | Source, student survey: Some students say they are given more food than they can eat. | <b>KEEP</b> | This suggests that smaller servings could reduce waste.                 |
| 3 | Source, school website: The school opened in 1988.                                    | <b>SKIP</b> | The school's opening year does not relate to lunch food waste.          |
| 4 | Source, science article: Composting turns food scraps into soil.                      | <b>KEEP</b> | This gives one way to handle food scraps instead of throwing them away. |
| 5 | Source, my experience: The lunch line is longest on pizza day.                        | <b>SKIP</b> | The length of the lunch line does not explain how to waste less food.   |
| 6 | Source, principal interview: The school colors are blue and gold.                     | <b>SKIP</b> | School colors do not relate to lunch food waste.                        |
| 7 | Source, my experience: I have seen unopened yogurt cups left on lunch tables.         | <b>KEEP</b> | This is an observation of food that may be wasted.                      |
| 8 | Source, food rescue group website: Some schools donate safe, unopened food.           | <b>KEEP</b> | This gives a possible way to keep unopened food from being wasted.      |

**PART 2 • PROVE IT**

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

**PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)**

- **KEEP:** Source, kitchen manager: Smaller scoops of pasta leave fewer leftovers.
- **SKIP:** Source, animal book: Owls hunt at night.

**Challenge:** A cafeteria worker says many whole apples are tossed in the trash. A food rescue group website says some schools donate safe, unopened food, and I have seen unopened yogurt cups left on tables. Our school could collect unopened food for donation.

Items 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8 are KEEP. Items 3, 5, and 6 are SKIP; for Part 2, accept explanations that correctly connect each note to the research question and name its source.