Where is your favorite fancy place to eat? Does the person who fixes food at that place wear a tall white hat? That might mean a chef makes the delicious food served there. Chefs are professional cooks. Wherever really good food is found, you’ll find chefs. They work in restaurants, on cruise ships, aboard private jets, and at resorts. They also work in specialty food stores, retirement communities, schools, hospitals, and catering companies.

**What's for Dinner?**
One thing that all chefs have in common is food. They love eating it. They love preparing it. They even love talking about it! Chefs take pride in preparing meals that people often pay big bucks to enjoy. A chef’s job is a mix of cooking skill, creative talent, and lots of hard work. Can you even imagine what it would be like to prepare fancy food all night long in a busy restaurant? Add lots of energy to the job requirements!

One way to find out if you are a foodie is to take a culinary arts class in school. There you’ll learn the basics of how to cook and get a taste of what’s like to prepare some of your favorite foods.

**CHALLENGE #1: If you had this career...**
What kind of training would you need?

Where could you find a job?

How much money could you earn?

Who would you help and how would you make a difference

Why would (or wouldn’t) you like doing a job like this?

**CHALLENGE #2: Think Tank**
Your community is hosting a party to celebrate the different ways that people celebrate the winter holidays. It’s Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Christmas, Las Posadas, and the Chinese New Year all rolled into one rollicking event!

You’ve been selected to be head chef. Your job is to come up with a menu that represents many different cultures. What kind of foods can you serve to give guests a taste of winter joy?

Plan a menu and include descriptions of which winter holiday the dish is used to celebrate.