

Week Six Participant Manual:

What a Crock!

A Slow Cooker is a Good Cooker



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JOURNALING

- What are your thoughts on being too busy to cook? Do you catch yourself saying this? Does it lead to poor eating choices?
 - Reflect upon your current eating patterns. What are strategies you can incorporate into your cooking routine to assure you are eating homecooked meals more often?



Crock Pot Cooking

Helpful Resources

Oven to Crockpot Conversions http://homecooking.about.com/library/weekly/blcrocktips.htm

Crockpot Hints and Tips http://www.crock-pot.com/hints.aspx





Recipes

Crockpot Chicken Cacciatore

You'll Need

- 2 medium onions, peeled, sliced
- 3 pounds chicken, cut up
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 can tomatoes, 16 ounces
- 1 can tomato sauce, 8 ounces
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 1 ½ teaspoons dried oregano, crushed
- ½ teaspoon dried basil, crushed
- 1 bay leaf
- ¼ cup dry white wine
- Spaghetti, cooked

Directions

- Place onions in the slow cooker.
- On top of onions place chicken pieces, garlic, tomatoes, tomato sauce, salt, pepper, herbs and wine.
- Cook on low heat for 7 to 9 hours or high heat for 3 to 4 hours.

Play with your Food!

- Play with the basil and oregano to meet your liking.
- For some of the onion use a red onion
- Serve over different types of pasta noodles
- Serve this dish over rice to make it a gluten-free meal



Crockpot Chili

You'll Need

- 1 ½ pounds ground beef
- ¹/₂ cup chopped celery
- ¹/₂ cup chopped mushrooms
- ¾ cup chopped onion
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 Tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- ½ cup BBQ sauce
- 16 ounces tomato sauce
- 28 ounces stewed tomatoes
- 15 ½ ounces canned kidney beans
- 1 teaspoon red cayenne pepper

Directions

- Brown beef in a skillet, drain fat and then place in crockpot.
- Add rest of ingredients, except kidney beans.
- Cook on low 8-10 hours or on high for 5-6 hours.
- Stir occasionally.
- Add beans about 1 1/2 hours before you serve.

Play with your Food!

- Add more chili powder or cayenne to bump up the spice
- Make the dish with 1/2 ground beef, 1/2 ground pork
- Add a splash of chipotle sauce to each bowl
- Serve over rice



Crockpot Roaster Chicken

You'll Need

- 1 Roaster Chicken
- 1 Lemon
- ¼ cup honey
- ½ cup orange juice

Directions

- Rinse chicken well inside and out.
- Roll the lemon on a flat top to soften, and pierce well with a fork.
- Place the lemon in the cavity of the chicken and place the chicken in the crockpot.
- Mix the honey and the orange juice together well and pour over the chicken.
- Cook on low until done.
- When you take the chicken out of the pot, remove the lemon very carefully, it will be hot and squeeze the juice over the chicken.

Play With Your Food

- The sweetness of this recipe goes well with a nice spicy side dish. If you are up for something spicy try complementing this meal with a spiced up rice or couscous.
- You might even want to throw in some spice such as cayenne or jalapenos three fourths of the way through the cooking process.
- Another thing can add a twist the flavor of this meal is a cinnamon stick halfway through cooking process.



Crockpot Shrimp in Tomato and Feta Sauce

You'll Need

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 2 garlic cloves minced
- 28 ounce canned tomatoes including the liquid
- 6 ounces tomato paste
- 1/4 cup dry white wine
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly-ground black pepper
- 1 1/2 pounds medium shrimp; peeled, deveined
- 2 ounces feta cheese, crumbled
- Salt

Directions

- Heat oil in a sauté pan and add the onion and garlic. Cook, stirring often, until the onion is softened, about 4 minutes. Transfer to a 3 1/2-quart slow cooker. Add the tomatoes with their puree and the tomato paste, wine, parsley, oregano and pepper.
- Cover and cook for 6 to 8 hours on LOW. Then increase the heat to HIGH and add the shrimp.
- Cook just until the shrimp are firm and have turned pink, about 15 minutes.
- Stir in the feta cheese, taste and adjust seasonings and add salt if necessary.
- Serve immediately over pasta or with some fresh bread.

Play with your Food

Vary the type of white wine and feta cheese you use.



Crockpot Turkey

You'll Need

- 4 pounds turkey breast
- 1 Tablespoon salt
- 2 large onions
- Garlic powder
- Paprika

Directions

- Two days before you want to cook the turkey, thaw the frozen turkey in refrigerator till almost thawed.
- The next day put the breast of turkey in a large bowl of salt water. Refrigerate overnight.
- Slice the onions and put in the bottom of the pot.
- Pat the turkey dry with paper towels.
- Sprinkle with garlic powder and paprika, liberally.
- Cook 4 1/2 hours on high.

Play with your Food!

- Try some rosemary, or poultry seasoning.
- Rub the outside of the turkey with butter.