Activities for Food

Rotate a Plate
Prior to the activity, the teacher creates 12 paper plate visuals. Each plate will have 2 foods drawn on them (or visuals of the foods pasted on the plates). On each of the plates, one of the foods will have a line drawn through it, indicating “Je n'aime pas ça” (I don’t like that).

The teacher places six of the plates on the board. The class is divided into two teams. One student from each team comes up to the front to represent his/her team. The teacher calls out a “J’aime ___ / Je n’aime pas____” (like/dislike) statement that refers to one of the six plates. The student who points to the correct plate first earns a point for his/her team. Continue rotating in new plates until all students have had a turn.

Les Coins- Corners
The teacher hangs four to eight pictures of the food vocabulary. The teacher or a student hides his/her eyes and counts to 10. The rest of the class moves quietly to one of the food pictures. The teacher or student keeps his/her eyes closed and calls out the name of one of the foods. All students at that location must sit down and the game continues until one student remains.

What’s in the Bag?
I also like to place many foods in a bag. The students sit in a circle. I grab something from the bag and then say, "J’ai...(une pomme)." (I have an apple.) Then next student grabs something from the bag and says, "Tu as une pomme et j’ai ...(un sac des haricots)" (You have an apple and I have a bag of beans.) This continues until all have something. I always use some of the same foods so they use the nous(we) form..."Elle a (She has)...Il a (He has)...Toi et moi avons (You and I have)...Vous avez (You all have)..., etc. Many variations of this could be used.
Food Trivia

I like to share interesting facts about food in the target language. I also use these facts for trivia.

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Look for a Picture---

I collect and pass out food magazines. Each student gets a magazine. I say... "Cherchez une photo d’une petite fille qui mange une pomme." (Look for a picture of a little girl eating an apple.) The first student to find a picture of this gets a point, a tootsie roll, etc. "Cherchez une photo d’un hamburger au fromage.” (Look for a picture of a hamburger with cheese.) "Cherchez la photo de quelqu’un qui boit un citron pressé” (Look for a picture of someone drinking lemonade.)

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Let’s Talk About It!

Buy plastic inexpensive food. You can hold it up and talk about it. The students can touch it, and it comes in handy later when doing skits.

Create Your Menu

Students like to create their own menus. Search on-line for authentic restaurants in French-speaking countries (search out 5). Give the students an allowance of what they can spend and allow them to record the foods they picked. (They may have to even figure out a tip and tax). When they are done, they can look up any foods they were uncertain of at the time. Would they like what they ordered? Reflect and certainly expand on this: talk about the appearances of the restaurants (if there were photos), was there music, were there specials, location etc.
Make That Recipe

We translate recipes. There is a simple recipe for «pain au chocolat». We then divide up the ingredients so everyone must bring a part so we can make them in class. You need only chocolat chips and French croissants (preferably the small ones). Slice the croissants in half put in a few chocolat chips; then roll a paper towel around it and microwave it for a few seconds (10-20 sec.) et voilà! They may not look like the real thing but they taste like it.

For the more adventuresome, you can try “les crêpes”. The ingredients are simple. You will need a blender, hot plate and skillet (or crêpe maker). To keep the crêpes from sticking to the pan, be sure to use a lot of “Pam” and butter in the skillet (or crêpe maker). Also especially if using a skillet, you can keep the crêpes small and then they are easier to handle. We divide up the ingredients so everyone must bring a part so we can make them in class. Those not bringing the eggs, milk, sugar, flour, butter, can bring fillings like different jellies and sugar / cinnamon. Just spread a thin layer of your favorite spread, roll them up, and enjoy.

Food Person

Create a food person using different foods for the various body parts. Students need to label the body parts and types of food. They then need to write a story in the target language answering the following questions:
1. Where is he/she from?
2. What is his/her favorite color?
3. How old is he/she?
4. What is his/her telephone number?
5. When is his/her birthday?
6. Does he/she speak the target language at home?
7. What is his/her favorite day and why?
8. What is his/her favorite weather?
9. Who is in his/her family?
10. What does he/she like to do?

More information can be required or made more difficult depending on the level of the students.
Food Person (Rubric)

Name____________________

_____Sentences
   _____10 sentences (5)
   _____2nd year level (5)
   _____grammatically correct (10)

_____Person
   _____10 food/body (5)
   _____labeled English and target language (5)
   _____person (creative and well done)(10)

_____Presentation
   _____memorized (10)
   _____few notes (8)
   _____read (6)

_____Total points

Foods We Like

In a Venn Diagram, students list the foods each one likes, and then where the diagram intersects they list the foods both of them like.

Marianne’s Hat

Give the student a copy of Marianne’s hat. The students are going to draw what you say on the hat. For example, you might want to make this a tropical fruit hat. You might say, “Le chapeau de Marianne a deux ananas.” (Marianne’s hat has two pineapples.) “Le chapeau de Marianne a dix cerises.” (Marianne’s hat has ten cherries.) You can also have the students draw what is on Marianne’s hat using colors. For example, “Le chapeau de Marianne a trois pommes rouge.” (Marianne’s hat has three red apples.) You can put anything on Mariane’s hat --- be creative!

Alphabet Race

Students are divided into small groups and given the letters of the alphabet. They are given a specified amount of time. During that time, they try to see how many foods they can write beginning with each letter of the alphabet. The team that has the most foods wins.