

Activity: **Fancy Tea Cookies (South America - Ecuador)**

Audience: 4th-6th graders (15 to 20)

Lesson Time: 15-20 minutes

Objective: To sample foods from South America.

Materials: Ingredients
A roll of prepared sugar cookie dough
Lots of different colored sprinkles, colored sugar, or colored frosting

Equipment
Knife
Cookie cutters
Baking sheet
Toaster oven

Preparation: Gather ingredients and equipment.

Explain: In Ecuador many children receive only a phone call on their birthday - or perhaps a card. Actual birthdays may not be much of a celebration at all. Most children in Ecuador are named for a saint, so they have a celebration similar to a birthday party on their saint's day.

Ecuadorian Saint's Day parties are usually afternoon tea parties. Hosts and hostesses serve raisin cake, fancy tea cookies, and hot chocolate. You can have a tea party with decorated cookies and hot chocolate on your birthday or any time of the year. Here's how to make decorated cookies similar to those served in Ecuador.

Procedure:

1. Prepare cookies according to package directions.
2. Sprinkle with sugars.
3. Frost with colored icings.

Discuss: Cookies are common symbols of holiday celebrations?
What types of cookies are your family favorites?

Source: Happy Birthday, Everywhere, Arlene Erlbach, Published by Millbrook Press.